TARZEY

The Life of Daniel William Tarzey (1826-1917)

and the early history of the Tarzey family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DANIEL WILLIAM TARZEY
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON FEB. 24TH 1917
AGED 91 YEARS.
ALSO OF SARAH WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED ON DECEMBER 27TH 1858
AGED 31 YEARS

Dedicated to two of Daniel William Tarzey's great grandchildren

Jean Elizabeth Florence Berry (nee Tarzey), 1926-2002, who initiated this research in the 1980s and her younger brother, John Edward Richard Tarzey (Dad), 1931-2019, who further inspired and encouraged this project

Copyright: Robert Tarzey, 2020

The great use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it, William James, 1900

Foreword

This book is a history of the Tarzey family from the mid-18th until the early-20th century. It is told from the perspective of Daniel William Tarzey (1826-1917), chosen because his long life is central to the emergence of the Bristol-based Tarzey family, whose origins this research set out to explore. In doing so, it side-lines many other interesting characters whose lives are only briefly touched upon. That said, the early part of the book documents the emergence of a unique surname that should interest anyone with Tarzey ancestry.

Daniel William's life has plenty of interest in its own right, including the family's flight from Middlesex to Bristol in 1835, the use of a false name on censuses by his parents, the lives and deaths of his three wives and the fate of his six surviving children.

This account starts in Middlesex in 1760, the year George III acceded to the throne, spans the whole Victorian era, and ends in Bristol in 1917 with World War One still raging. The marriage of Daniel William's father, Thomas, to Ann Maria Cole in 1813, links the family with central London and helps explain later events that led to the uprooting of the family in 1835. During this period, the Tarzey family evolved from illiterate rural labourers and petty criminals to skilled boat- and ship-builders.

For UK-focussed family historians 1837 is a pivotal year. In July 1837, the General Register Office was set up in Somerset House (The Strand, London), as the result of 1836 legislation that ordered the central registration of all births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales. Another key year is 1841, when the first *modern* census, required by the 1840 Population Act, recorded the occupants of every UK household on the night of 6th June 1841[1]. These changes mean the Bristol history of the Tarzeys is better recorded than the Edmonton history, which must rely on scantier parish records of varying standards. The only other documents discovered from the Edmonton days are the transcript and newspaper reports of the trial of Daniel William's eldest brother George in February 1835.

Stories of a family's history will always be selective, after all, ultimately all humans are related. The motivation for this record is to understand the early history of those who used the name Tarzey and how the name itself came to be. The name has always intrigued the family. In the early 1980s, whilst waiting for a train in Derby, the author trawled through every UK telephone directory in the central library for Tarzeys. Only three clusters were found, the Bristol Tarzeys, of which the author was one, the Portsmouth Tarzeys, of which Jean Berry (the author's aunt) was already aware and the Oxford Tarzeys, of which nothing was previously known to the Bristol Tarzeys. The relationships are all now understood, all known living and dead Tarzeys are related and the name is unique to one extended family with a common ancestor born in 1794.

Focussing on a family name inevitably takes the story down the male line, however, all living Tarzeys are as much descendants of Daniel William's grandmother Ann Russell, as of his grandfather, John Tarzey. No one should overlook their total genetic heritage; for the latest generation of Tarzeys, born in the first decade of the 21st century, Daniel William is just one of their 32 great, great, great grandparents.

Furthermore, investigating the lives of Daniel William's mother, sisters and daughters provides many insights into the family history that would otherwise be missed. His mother Ann Maria Tarzey (nee

[1] There had been UK-wide censuses before 1841, but these did not record the names and address of individual citizens. Detailed census records are not made public for 100 years, so the censuses from 1841 and 1911 are now in the public domain, details of the 1921 census will be released in 2021.

Cole) may have been one of the most influential people in the early history of the family. His youngest daughter Helena (Nell) was with him from her birth in 1883 until his death in 1917.

Jean Berry provided the groundwork upon which this history is built. She communicated by letter with the Portsmouth Tarzeys back in the 1980s. In the early 2000s the author spent time searching the, then paper-only, directories of births, deaths and marriages in Islington and established the link with the Oxford Tarzeys, by finding that Daniel William Tarzey and Edward Tarzey were brothers. The research was further inspired in 2012 with the discovery of Daniel William's grave at Arnos Vale Cemetery and those of his father, Thomas, and brother, Edward, nearby.

Family research has been made easier in recent years through online resources including family history sites, www.ancestry.com was used more than any other for this project, and the British Newspaper Archive www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk. Detailed searches uncovered information that would otherwise have been missed, such as finding the Tarzey family in the early census records, when Thomas and Ann Maria were using the name '*Moss*' and finding Daniel William had three other brothers, George, Thomas Daniel and James Moss, who all spelt their surname '*Tarsey*'.

So here goes. The Life of Daniel William Tarzey, my great, great grandfather, and the early history of the Tarzey family.

Robert John Edward Tarzey (1962-present)

More information please

This is the first edition of this book. It is hoped that, by circulating it amongst those with Tarzey ancestry, more information about the history of the family may be uncovered. Furthermore, readers may notice errors which the author would be happy to correct. In the fullness of time it is planned to produce a second edition, including any feedback and providing more insights from on-going research.

Please feel free to contact the author:
bobtarzey@gmail.com
07900 275517

Prologue – a family mourns

On 1st March 1917, mourners gathered around a family grave in Arnos Vale Cemetery in Bristol to see the last of its six occupants lowered in. The deceased was a 91-year-old man, a remarkable age for someone with a life expectancy of about 40[2] when he was born. His name was Daniel William Tarzey (1826-1917). He had achieved enough in life to warrant an obituary of over three hundred words in Bristol's Western Daily Press on 28th February 1917. However, Daniel's life had not started in Bristol, he had been born in Edmonton, Middlesex, the son of an illiterate cart driver. It is a life that spanned all 64 years of Queen Victoria's reign, an age of opportunity and prosperity for Britain and its luckier citizens.

The story of how Daniel William, the son of a poor Middlesex family, crossed England in 1835, when he was just 9, to live and end his life as respected citizen of Bristol, is of interest in its own right; a tale of crime and tragedy as well as success. However, Daniel William's story also uncovers the origins of a unique surname, as all known living Tarzeys are related through Daniel William's parents, Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey.

What's with the Z in Tarzey?

The name Tarzey, spelt with a Z, is today unique to certain descendants of Daniel William's father, Thomas Tarzey. To ask when Tarzey was first spelt with a Z does not make sense, it is just one of the ways the name was spelt by parish record takers in the 18th and 19th centuries based on what they heard. So, John *Tawsey* married in 1786, John *Tasey* fathered Thomas in 1794 and John *Tarzey* died in 1829. These are all references to the same person, Daniel William's grandfather. Likewise, Thomas J. *Tasey* was born 1794, Thomas *Tarsey* married in 1813, Thomas *Tarzy* fathered Daniel William in 1826 and *Thomas Moss Tarzey* was buried in 1861. John and Thomas were both illiterate, signing documents with their mark, an X; they would never have spelt out their own names.

As literacy improved, and the bureaucratic changes of the mid-19th century were introduced, there was more consistent spelling of names. Tarzey became the preferred spelling of the Bristol-based families of Daniel William and Edward, the third and fourth of Thomas Tarzey's sons. However, the eldest brother George is recorded as dying in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) in 1838 as a *Tarsey*. The descendants of Thomas Daniel, the second brother, who remained in London, also ended up using an S, as did those of the youngest brother, James Moss, even though he was living in Bristol.

To all this variation in spelling must be added the transcription errors that occur in family history records, especially online genealogy web sites, as the transcribers try to interpret the written scrawl of past record makers. Tracing the history of a family, even with a rare surname, is not always as easy as searching for the name '*Tarzey*'. Tracking down a record can involve trawling through many pages of parish records where it is hoped the lives of family members may be recorded. In the text of this document, where a spelling is *italicised*, it indicates a literal spelling from the records.

[2] Most Victorians who reached adulthood would have lived more than 40 years, as did most of the Tarzey family members covered in this account. However, this must be offset against the high infant death rate, which is also evident from what follows. Together, these lead to an average life expectancy at birth in 1825 of 40.5 years https://www.statista.com/statistics/1040159/life-expectancy-united-kingdom-all-time/

If it is accepted that Tarzey is just a variant spelling of a family of surnames, then the explanation of its origin offered by SurnameDB[3] seems satisfactory: '*found in the spellings of Tarze, Tarzey, Tarzer, Tarser, Tarsey, Tersey, and Torsey, this very unusual name is probably job descriptive although it may also be locational. It derives from the Old English pre-7th Century 'Taesel' and means either one who teased the cloth by using a thistle head, or possibly one who was resident by a special thistle bed*'.

The use of Tarzey and its variations can be found further back than 1760, where this history starts, in parish records from Middlesex, Essex and central London, an opportunity for further investigation.

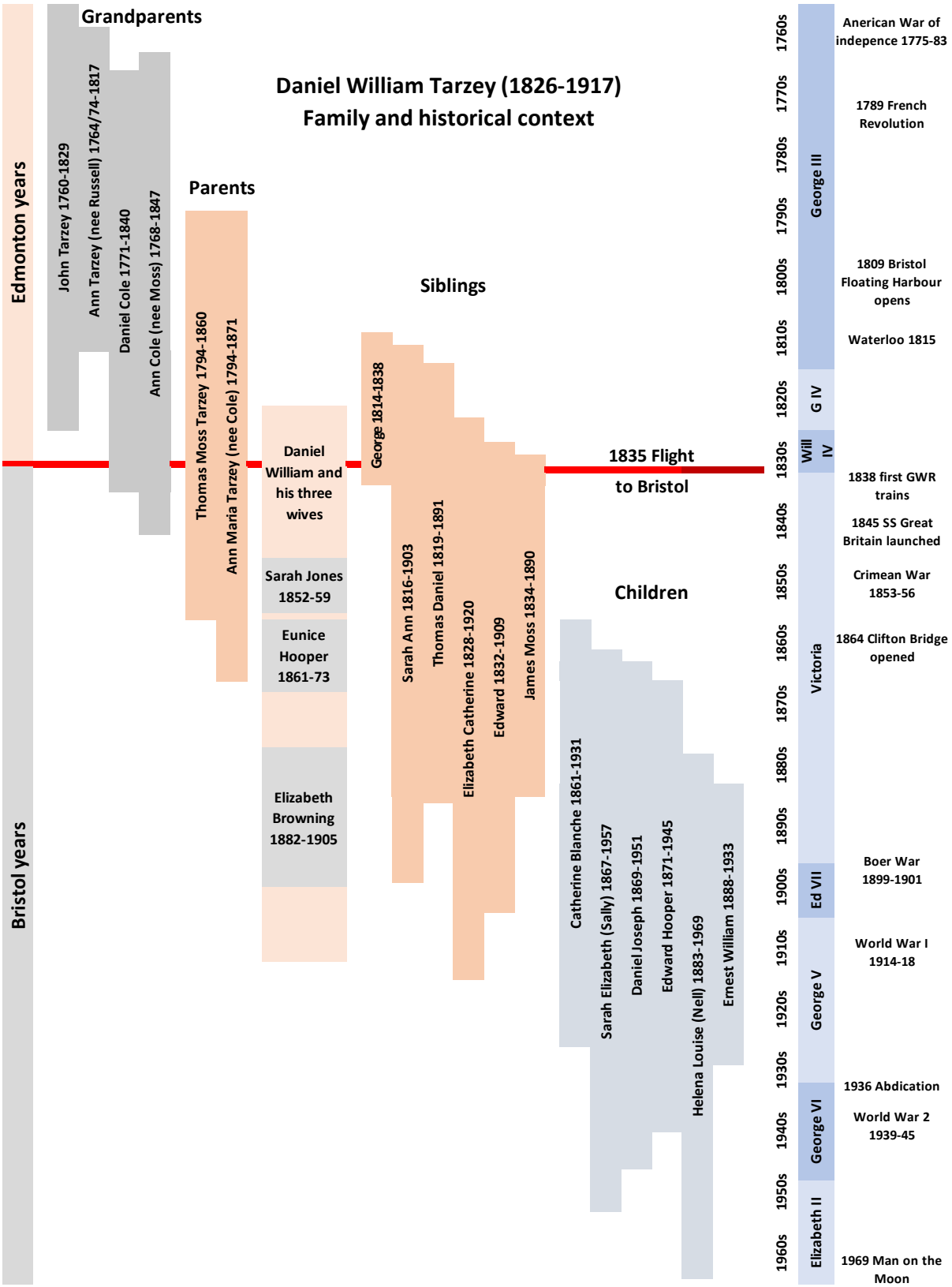
A note on given names

Family members often share given first names as well as surnames. It could lead to confusion if clarification were not provided by using middle names, where available, when referring to the various Daniels, Edwards, Thomases, Catherines, Anns and so on that crop up in the history of the Tarzey family. Where names are unique within this account, such as Amelia, Helena, Gilbert and Mildred, once introduced they are mostly used on their own.

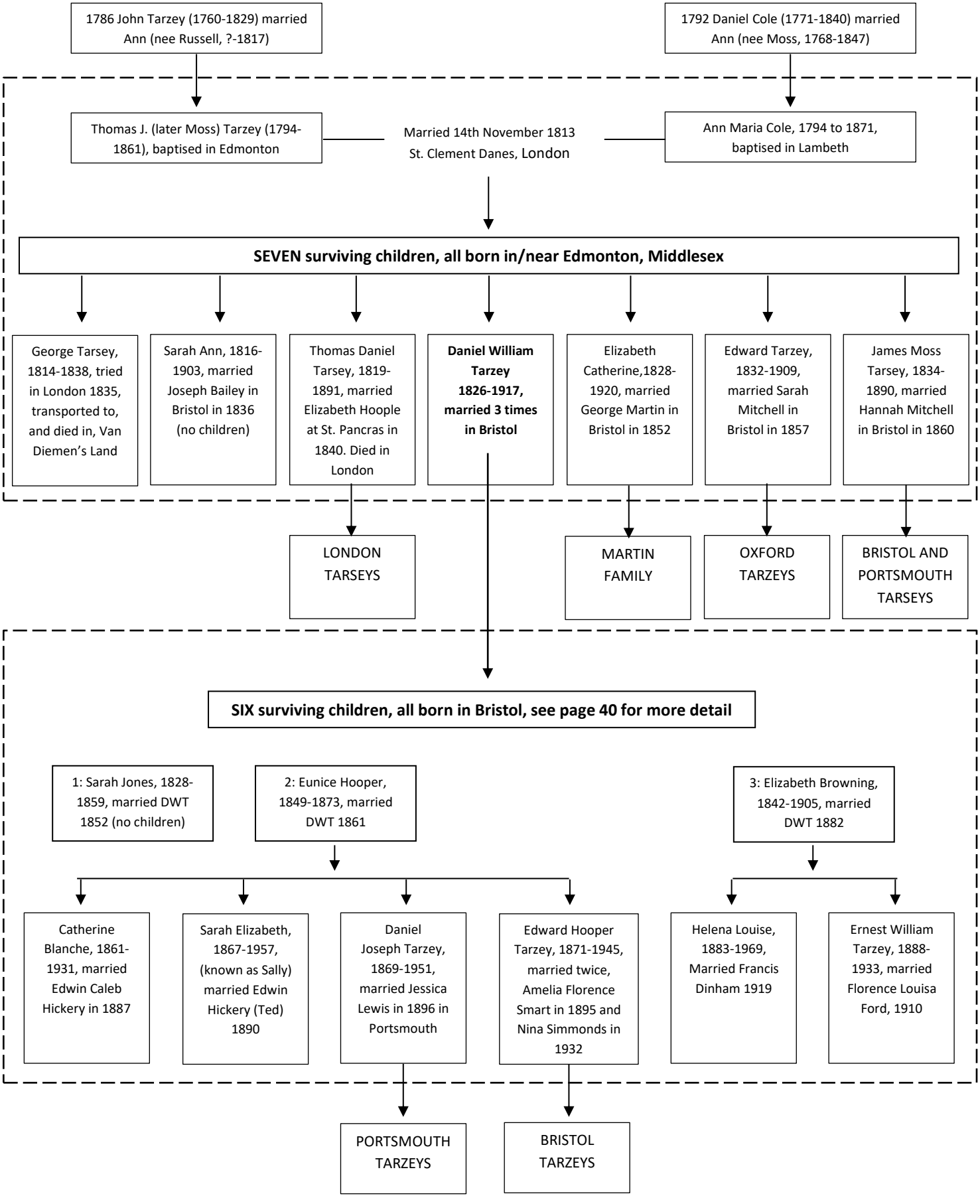
It is not known how the earlier Tarzeys were referred to day-to-day. That said, it is likely that Daniel William's co-workers in the Bristol dockyards would have called him Dan or Danny rather than Daniel, certainly not Daniel William. For example, it is known from personal recollections of the author's father, John Edward Richard Tarzey, that Daniel William's son, Edward Hooper Tarzey, was known as Ted. His second daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, was known as Sally and his youngest daughter, Helena Louise, as Nell.

Daniel William's father, Thomas, is a particular problem. He was born *Thomas J. Tasey* in 1794 and buried *Thomas Moss Tarzey* in 1861 (a form he adopted only on reaching Bristol). On his wife Ann Maria's death certificate (1871), he is referred to as *Thomas Daniel Tarsey* (probably a mistake made by her next of kin in London, ten years after his death). He is referred to in this account as just Thomas.

[3] https://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Tarzey


Daniel William Tarzey (1826-1917)
Family and historical context
Edmonton years
Bristol years
Grandparents
John Tarzey 1760-1829
Ann Tarzey (nee Russell) 1764/74-1817
Daniel Cole 1771-1840
Ann Cole (nee Moss) 1768-1847
Parents
Thomas Moss Tarzey 1794-1860
Ann Maria Tarzey (nee Cole) 1794-1871
Siblings
Daniel William and his three wives
Sarah Jones 1852-59
Eunice Hooper 1861-73
Elizabeth Browning 1882-1905
George 1814-1838
Sarah Ann 1816-1903
Thomas Daniel 1819-1891
Elizabeth Catherine 1828-1920
Edward 1832-1909
James Moss 1834-1890
1835 Flight to Bristol
Children
Catherine Blanche 1861-1931
Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) 1867-1957
Daniel Joseph 1869-1951
Edward Hooper 1871-1945
Helena Louise (Nell) 1883-1969
Ernest William 1888-1933
1760s
1770s
1780s
1790s
1800s
1810s
1820s
1830s
1840s
1850s
1860s
1870s
1880s
1890s
1900s
1910s
1920s
1930s
1940s
1950s
1960s
George III
G IV
Will IV
Victoria
Ed VII
George V
George VI
Elizabeth II
American War of indepence 1775-83
1789 French Revolution
1809 Bristol Floating Harbour opens
Waterloo 1815
1838 first GWR trains
1845 SS Great Britain launched
Crimean War 1853-56
1864 Clifton Bridge opened
Boer War 1899-1901
World War I 1914-18
1936 Abdication
World War 2 1939-45
1969 Man on the Moon

Simplified family tree showing the main branches of the Tarzey family


1786 John Tarzey (1760-1829) married Ann (nee Russell, ?-1817)
1792 Daniel Cole (1771-1840) married Ann (nee Moss, 1768-1847)
Thomas J. (later Moss) Tarzey (1794-1861), baptised in Edmonton
Married 14th November 1813 St. Clement Danes, London
Ann Maria Cole, 1794 to 1871, baptised in Lambeth
SEVEN surviving children, all born in/near Edmonton, Middlesex
George Tarsey, 1814-1838, tried in London 1835, transported to, and died in, Van Diemen's Land
Sarah Ann, 1816-1903, married Joseph Bailey in Bristol in 1836 (no children)
Thomas Daniel Tarsey, 1819-1891, married Elizabeth Hoople at St. Pancras in 1840. Died in London
Daniel William Tarzey 1826-1917, married 3 times in Bristol
Elizabeth Catherine,1828-1920, married George Martin in Bristol in 1852
Edward Tarzey, 1832-1909, married Sarah Mitchell in Bristol in 1857
James Moss Tarsey, 1834-1890, married Hannah Mitchell in Bristol in 1860
LONDON TARSEYS
MARTIN FAMILY
OXFORD TARZEYS
BRISTOL AND PORTSMOUTH TARSEYS
SIX surviving children, all born in Bristol, see page 40 for more detail
1: Sarah Jones, 1828-1859, married DWT 1852 (no children)
2: Eunice Hooper, 1849-1873, married DWT 1861
3: Elizabeth Browning, 1842-1905, married DWT 1882
Catherine Blanche, 1861-1931, married Edwin Caleb Hickery in 1887
Sarah Elizabeth, 1867-1957, (known as Sally) married Edwin Hickery (Ted) 1890
Daniel Joseph Tarzey, 1869-1951, married Jessica Lewis in 1896 in Portsmouth
Edward Hooper Tarzey, 1871-1945, married twice, Amelia Florence Smart in 1895 and Nina Simmonds in 1932
Helena Louise, 1883-1969, Married Francis Dinham 1919
Ernest William Tarzey, 1888-1933, married Florence Louisa Ford, 1910
PORTSMOUTH TARZEYS
BRISTOL TARZEYS

Early 19th Century Edmonton

The Tarzey family hails from the Parish of Edmonton, Middlesex. Today Edmonton is a London suburb, north of Tottenham, part of the Greater London Borough of Enfield, a cosmopolitan place, with around half of the population being non-white; it has a higher percentage of Muslims than most other London Boroughs.

In the 18th and 19th centuries Edmonton was quite different. Back then the parish bordered Essex, which was reached by crossing the River Lea to the east. It comprised several small villages set amid agricultural land and a few wealthy estates where some Tarzeys may have worked, for example Grovelands Park, now run as a Priory rehab clinic. The New River Aqueduct also runs through the area, completed in 1613 to supply water to central London.

In the east of the parish lay the villages of Upper (south) and Lower (north) Edmonton. In the west the hamlets of Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Southgate (all areas of north London today). Agricultural produce found its way into the markets of central London, transporting it there was how Thomas Tarzey, Daniel William's father, seems to have made his living.

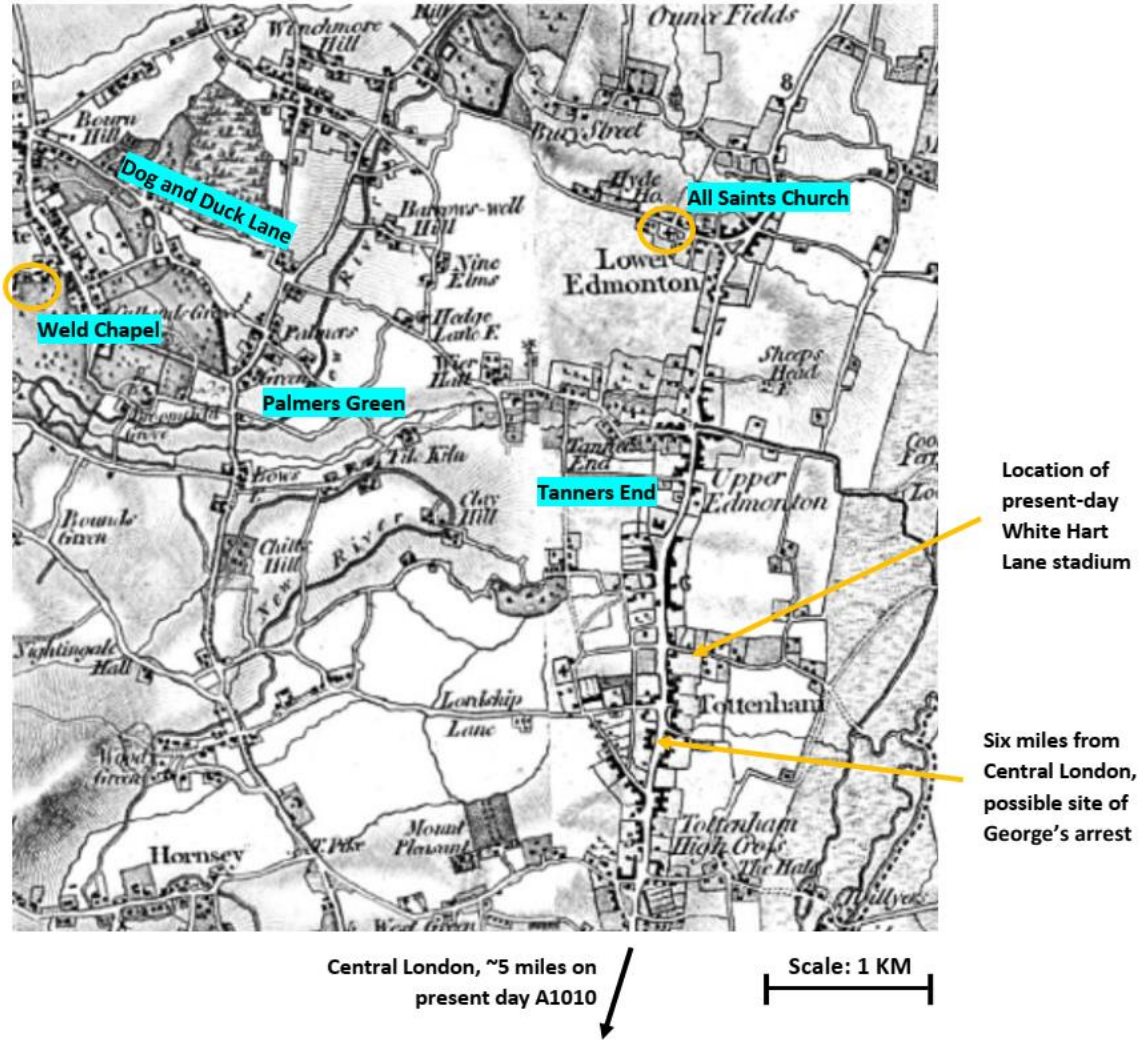
Edmonton All Saints

There is still evidence of Edmonton's past. One of the oldest buildings is the 15th century All Saints Church. Daniel William was baptised here in May 1826. There was also the Weld Chapel in Southgate, a chapel-of-ease which avoided parishioners in the west walking the few miles to All Saints, which was demolished in 1862 and replaced by the current Christchurch. There are references to Tarzey baptisms at the Weld Chapel dating back to the 17th century; Daniel William's aunt, Ann, was baptised there in 1787.

Running north-west from Palmers Green towards Southgate was Dog and Duck Lane (now called Bourn Hill), where Daniel William's paternal grandparents, John and Ann Tarzey, lived. At the bottom of the hill is the Dog and Duck pub, the current premises were built in 1900 but there has been a pub on the same site since at least the 18th century. There is a terrace of cottages adjacent to the pub, on what is now Hoppers Road, some of these are 18th century and would have been familiar to John and Ann, one of them may even have been their home.

At the western end of Upper Edmonton, north of the Pymmes Brook (which flows east, joining the River Lea at Tottenham), ran a road called Tanners End, now known as Silver Street. The only surviving reference on modern maps is Tanners End Lane which runs south from Silver Street, crossing the brook, towards the main A406 Sterling Way. Daniel William's parents, Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey, set up home here around 1819, five or six years after marrying in 1813, and remained for over fifteen years before fleeing to Bristol in 1835. Tanners End was where Daniel William was born on 5th February 1826.

Edmonton in the early 19th century


Dog and Duck Lane
All Saints Church
Weld Chapel
Palmers Green
Tanners End
Location of present-day White Hart Lane stadium
Six miles from Central London, possible site of George's arrest
Central London, ~5 miles on present day A1010
Scale: 1 KM

Extracted from the 1805-1822 Ordnance Survey map of Great Britain

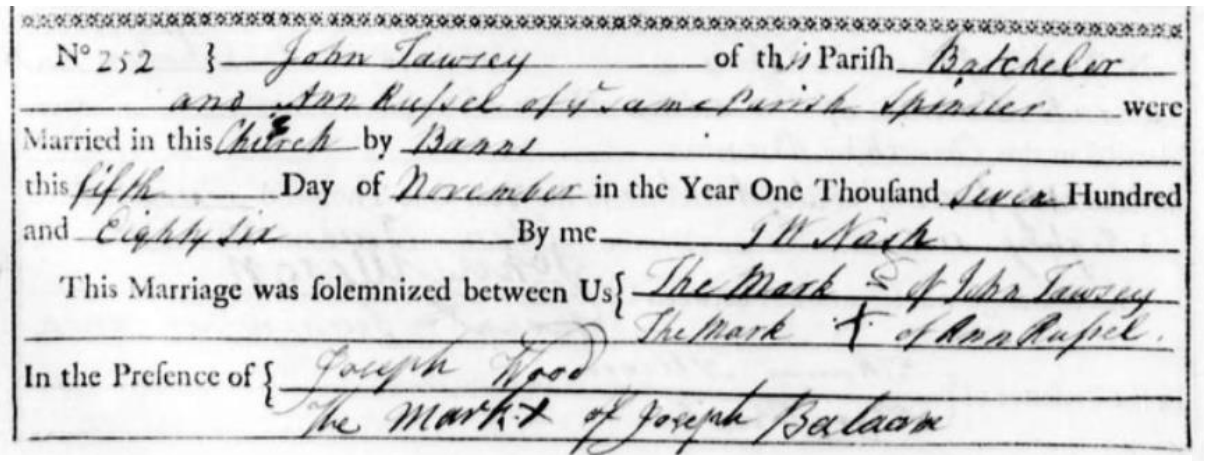
John and Ann Tarzey – Daniel William's paternal grandparents

The earliest currently known ancestor of the present day Tarzeys, with the name Tarzey, is John Tarzey. John was buried on 17th May 1829 aged 69, according to his Edmonton All Saints burial record, suggesting a birth year of 1760. No evidence of his grave has been found. His place of death is recorded as Dog and Duck Lane in Palmers Green, where John seems to have spent most of his life. For 31 of his 69 years he was married to Ann. All references to John's occupation describe him as a labourer, perhaps working on the land.

John *Tarsey* married Ann Russell '*of the same parish*' at Edmonton All Saints on November 5th, 1786. Both John and Ann were illiterate, signing the register with their mark (an 'X'). Ann Tarzey is recorded as dying on 11th Feb 1817 aged 43, this would mean her being born in 1774 and thus marrying John aged just 13 or 14, probably an error by the record taker (perhaps she was 53 when she died?) If Ann really was born in 1774, she would have been in her early teens when her first child was born, which seems unlikely, if she was born in 1764, she would have been her mid-40s when the last child was born, which is possible.

John and Ann had at least five children, but records for only two have been found as adults. Their first child was Ann, baptised at the Weld Chapel on 11th November 1787. A seven-year gap follows until *Thomas J. Tarzey*, baptised at Edmonton All Saints on December 17th, 1794; he was Daniel William's father. Their next three children, which did not survive, were also baptised and/or buried at All Saints; Rebecca (1796-1800), William J. (May 1798, died aged 5 weeks) and John (born 6th July 1799, died aged 9 months). If this record of their family is complete, only Thomas passed on the family name.

There is also a Randall Tarzey, who died living on Dog and Duck Lane in September 1837, aged 40. His death was registered by his sister Ann Prudence (using her mark, an '*x*'); she could be the first child of John and Ann Tarzey and Randall may be another son. If the death age is correct, his birth could be squeezed in between Rebecca and William J. No record of Randall's birth, or any marriage or children, has been found. However, the name does crop up again twice in the Tarzey family history, Thomas Tarzey uses it as a second name for one of his sons, as does Thomas's youngest son, James Moss Tarsey, for one of his sons.



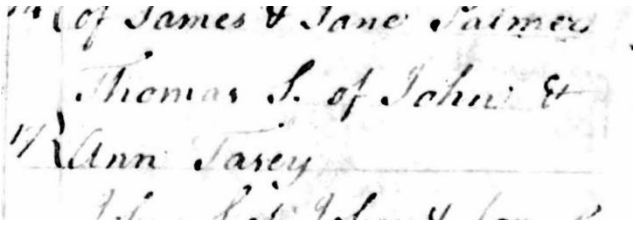
N° 252 } John Tawsey of this Parish Batchelor
and Ann Rufsel of ye same Parish Spinster were
Married in this Church by Banns
this fifth Day of November in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred
and Eighty six By me I W Nash
This Marriage was solemnized between Us { The Mark ⊃ of John Tawsey
The Mark X of Ann Rufsel.
In the Presence of { Joseph Wood
The Mark X of Joseph Balaam

The 1786 marriage record for John Tarzey and Ann Russell

Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey – Daniel William's parents

Daniel William's parents were Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey. They married on 14th November 1813 and they remained together, through thick and thin, for 48 years, until Thomas died in 1861. Ann Maria would outlive him by ten years.

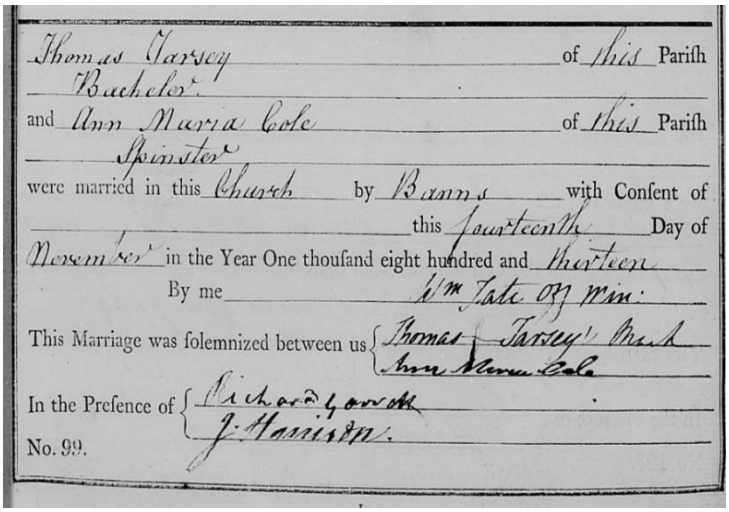
From what follows, one can imagine Ann Maria being a matriarchal figure and having a strong influence during the first half of Daniel William's long life. As for Thomas, as this account will show, it is hard to escape the conclusion that he was a bit of a rogue and bad influence on, at least, his eldest son George.



The 1794 baptism record for Thomas J Tarzey

What Thomas's given middle name was is unknown, other than it started with a 'J'. However, the name on his gravestone in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, where he was buried in 1861, is *Thomas Moss Tarzey*. Moss was an alternative surname he used on census records, perhaps to distance his family from the events in Edmonton that, this account contends, led Thomas to flee with his family to Bristol in 1835.

Thomas is also referred to as *Thomas Daniel Tarsey* on Ann Maria's 1871 death certificate. She appears to have died visiting her family in Somers Town (St. Pancras, London), so perhaps a mistake was made when they registered her death, unable to recall the correct name of her husband who had died 10 years earlier.



Thomas Tarsey Bachelor of this Parish
and Ann Maria Cole Spinster of this Parish
were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
this fourteenth Day of
November in the Year One thousand eight hundred and thirteen
By me Wm Tate Off Min:
This Marriage was solemnized between us { Thomas Tarsey Mark / Ann Maria Cole
In the Presence of { Richard Gowett / J. Harrison.
No. 99.

The 1813 marriage record for Thomas Tarzey and Ann Maria Cole

Thomas and Ann Maria were both around 18 when they married. Thomas had grown up in Edmonton, but Ann Maria Cole was baptised at St. Mary in Lambeth on 20th July 1794 (now The Garden Museum). The family lived in central London in the early 19th century (see box on next page), although Ann Maria's parents would later move further north to Green Lane Tile Kilns, just south of Edmonton, perhaps to be nearer their daughter and her family.

The marriage took place in central London at the parish church of St. Clement Danes on The Strand. Both were both described as '*of this parish*' on the marriage record. Clearly, Thomas was not of the parish of St. Clement Danes, as he came from Edmonton, so this could be a clerical error, or it could be that young Thomas spent a lot of time, or was even living, in central London by 1813, due to his work. This is probably how Thomas met Ann Maria.

Thomas describes himself as a labourer, haulier or carter on various documents (and is described as a carman on Ann Maria's death certificate), so he must have been able to handle a horse and cart and, by 1835, he owned one. It is also likely that part of his job was to deliver the agricultural produce from Edmonton to Covent Garden, which is just north of St. Clement Danes. This is what

Thomas's eldest son George claimed to have been doing when he was arrested, with a cart load of stolen goods, on his way back from London to Tanners End in January 1835.

Between getting married in 1813, and before the move to Bristol in 1835, Thomas and Ann had at least eleven children, all were baptised at Edmonton All Saints. From 1813 to around 1816-18, the couple lived in Winchmore Hill, near Thomas's parents in Palmers Green, who were both still alive at the time (Ann died in 1817, John in 1829). It is here that the first two children were born, George (10th December 1814) and Sarah Ann (10th November 1816).

By 1819 Thomas and Ann Maria had moved to Tanners End, Upper Edmonton, in the east of the parish where the next eight children (with one exception) were born. Thomas Daniel (12th March 1819), John Randall (22nd July 1821), Ann Maria (junior, born at Green Lane Tile Kilns on 24th August 1823), Daniel William (5th February 1826), Elizabeth Catherine (baptised, 4th January 1828), William Henry (20th December 1829), Edward (2nd April 1832) and James Moss (19th May 1834). The use of '*Moss*', Ann Maria's mother's maiden name, as a middle name for James is the first time it crops up in Tarzey family history, but not the last.

John Randall, Ann Maria junior and William Henry do not appear in the later history of the Tarzey family and must have died in childhood, although no death or burial records have been found. Another child, Catherine Anne Moss, was born in Bristol in January 1838 and died from smallpox on 9th June 1840. Ann Maria was 44 when her 11th and last known child was born.

Overall, five boys and two girls reached adulthood: George, Sarah Ann, Thomas Daniel, Daniel William, Elizabeth Catherine, Edward and James Moss. Four or more child deaths seems a tragedy viewed from the 21st century, but it was a norm in the 19th century, their son Edward, a generation later, would bury more children than lived. By 1834, the Tarzeys of Edmonton, Thomas and Ann Maria and at least seven children, seemed settled at Tanners End, albeit probably poor. Then in 1835 everything changed.

Daniel and Ann Cole, Daniel William's maternal grandparents

Ann Maria's parents, Daniel Cole (1771-1840) and Ann Moss (1768-1847) had married on 15th May 1792 at Old Church, St. Pancras, London. Daniel Cole died at Green Lane Tile Kilns. They are both buried in Abney Park Cemetery in Stoke Newington. The grave is recorded but unmarked.

Ann Maria seemed to stay close to her family, even after the move to Bristol. Her fifth child, also called Ann Maria, was born at her parents' home at Green Lane Tile Kilns in 1824. Ann Maria died visiting family in St. Pancras in May 1871.

The influence of the Cole family may have been profound; the crimes of Thomas and Ann Maria's eldest son George were committed in central London, close to the early home of his maternal grandparents. The most likely origin of the name Moss, which the Tarzey family used in censuses after the move to Bristol, is that Ann Maria suggested using her mother's maiden name. She had already had her fifth surviving son baptised James Moss Tarzey in 1834.

According to a, now lost, online source Daniel Cole served in the Royal Navy under Nelson. In the early 1800s the Coles were living by the Thames in London, which at the time would have been a bustling port. Ann Maria would have known about her father's work and been familiar with the activities that went on around a dock. It may be that she inspired her younger sons; Daniel William, Edward and James Moss, to become apprentice boat builders after the family moved to Bristol, a career Daniel William would pursue throughout his life and inspire his sons to take up. One can imagine young Daniel William sitting on his maternal grandfather's knee and hearing tales of the sea.

Guilty – George *Tarsey's* Old Bailey trial, February 1835

On Monday 2nd February 1835, three days before Daniel William's ninth birthday, his older brother George, aged 20, was found guilty of larceny (theft[4]) at the Old Bailey and sentenced to be transported for seven years to Van Diemen's Land (modern day Tasmania), where he would die in 1838. George's story is of interest in its own right, however, the incident also led to the most dramatic upheaval in the Tarzey family's history.

Something is known about George Tarsey's appearance, which is provided as part of his transport record. Prisoner-899 was a 21-year old '*farm labourer*' from Edmonton. He was 5 feet 9 inches tall (without shoes), brown complexion, light brown hair (no whiskers), brown eyebrows, blue eyes, oval head, high and wrinkled forehead, long and large nose. Added remarks suggest a tattoo on his inside arm of the sun, a crescent and a woman.

There are three known accounts of George's crime and trial; the transcript of the actual trial in the Proceedings of the Old Bailey (1674-1913) and two subsequent London newspaper reports published on Friday 6th February 1835 in the Morning Chronicle and Morning Advertiser. These are the only known documents relating to the Tarzeys of Edmonton, other than the records of baptisms, marriages and burials in the parish registers.

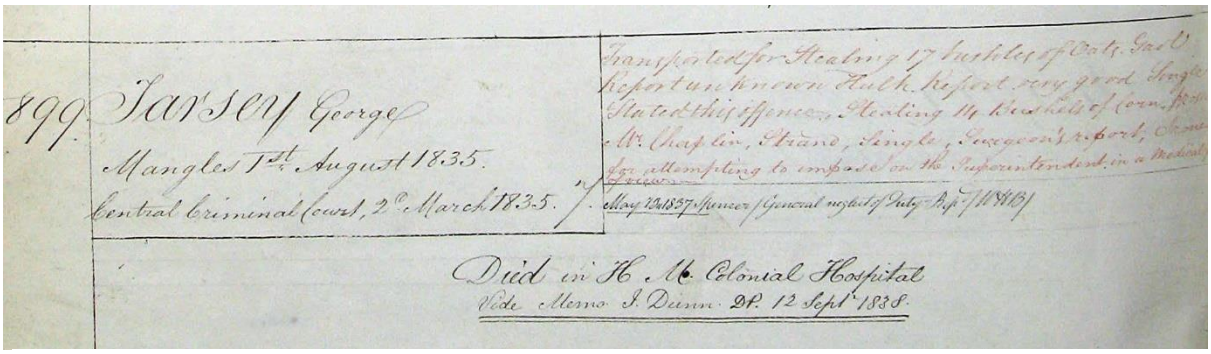
The accounts refer to George *Tarsey*, a hay-jobber from Edmonton. George was indicted for stealing, on the 10th January 1835, '*2 sacks, value 3s.; 14 bushels of oats, value 2l. 5s.; 4 trusses of hay, value 12s.; I head-stall and reins, value 2s.; 9 halters and bridles, value 3s.; 4 rugs, value 2s.; and 1 circingle, value 1s.; the goods of William Chaplin*'. These value a total 68 shillings, which would be about £220 in today's money.[5] This may not appear to be a significant individual crime, but the court judged it to be an example of a broader racket being operated by the '*hay-jobbers of Edmonton*'.

George had been intercepted, with his father's horse and cart, by the 6-mile stone on the road from London to Edmonton. The stolen goods were concealed under a load of dung, which he claimed had been loaded at Holborn and he was bringing back to make use of an otherwise empty cart, having delivered turnips and greens. The newspaper describes William Chaplin as, '*large coach proprietor of the Angel-yard, behind St. Clement's*'[6].

THE ANGEL INN, ST. CLEMENTS', STRAND.

[4] Larceny is the theft of personal property, in English law larceny was replaced as a statutory crime by the specific crimes of burglary, robbery, fraud, theft in 1968.
[5] All monetary values recalculated to today's values using the Bank of England Inflation Calculator https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy/inflation/inflation-calculator
[6] Picture source https://pubwiki.co.uk/LondonPubs/ClementsDanes/AngelSun.shtml

The transcript says that the case '*arose from another*', that of George Webb, which had been heard a week earlier. Webb was found guilty of the theft of thirty-six trusses of hay from Edmonton and sentenced to be transported for seven years. In the transcript of George Tarsey's trial, it says '*the Common Serjeant said he fully concurred in the verdict of the jury'.* The newspaper concludes that a *'most disgraceful system was extensively pursued by the hay-jobbers in the neighbourhood of Edmonton. It was necessary that the prisoner [George Tarsey] be made an example of*'. This comment, together with the link to the earlier trial, suggests that George's crime was part of racket being operated by the hay-jobbers, between London and Edmonton. This may explain why a case of theft, according to the newspaper, '*excited considerable interest in the court*'.


899 Tarson George
Mangles 1st August 1835.
Central Criminal Court, 2d March 1835.
Transported for Stealing 17 bushels of Oats &c
Died in H. M. Colonial Hospital
Vide Memo. J. Dunn. DR. 12 Sept. 1838.

The record for prisoner 899, George Tarsey, detailing his transportation on the Mangles and death in 1838

Another comment in the Webb trial by a witness called Thomas Belford throws light on the life-styles of the hay-jobbers: '*on Friday, January 9, I took a load of turnips to Covent-garden market – I started from Ponder's-End at a quarter before six o'clock – I got to Covent-garden a quarter before twelve, and returned between eleven and twelve o'clock on Saturday night*'. Journeys between Edmonton and London were not always made in a day, the cart drivers (hauliers, carmen) would stay overnight in central London, presumably making use of local inns and meeting local women.

George Webb was 29 when convicted, George Tarsey just 20. Did they invent the racket themselves, or were they introduced to it by their elders? The Morning Advertiser implicates George's father Thomas saying, '*George Tarsey was indicted (with his father Thomas Tarsey, not in custody)*'. The transcript and Morning Chronicle reports both imply the same. At the very least, Thomas probably owned the cart George was using when arrested. In the transcript there are four comments from witnesses referring to Thomas:

'*when we got to Tanner's End, the prisoner was met by his father, Thomas Tarsey, who lives there – the father and the prisoner, and the horse and cart, all went into the yard, and the horse was taken out*'

'*the prisoner's father went away with the horse from the cart, and I believe, was not seen any more – the prisoner was taken*'

'*I believe this prisoner commenced his father made off*'

'*I saw him [George] searched, and a number of way-bills were found on him of the Angel-inn, St. Clement's – I went to look for old [Thomas] Tarsey, but could not find him*'.

Thomas understood his son had been arrested and what he was charged with. He was back in possession of at least the horse and, probably soon after, the cart, which his son had been using. The Morning Chronicle says that '*[the] prisoner's father, on this discovery [of the stolen goods], immediately decamped, and the prisoner was taken into custody*'. The Morning Advertiser says, when describing George's arrest, '*Old Tarsey had since absconded*'.

There is no further record of Thomas Tarzey and his family in Edmonton, the family is next found in Bristol in 1836, fourteen months later.

The Tarzey family's journey to Bristol in 1835

For a poor family to uproot itself after years living in Edmonton and head for the other side of the country must have been a big decision. The date of the journey cannot be known for sure. If the move was for Thomas to put himself beyond the reach of the Edmonton law-enforcers, then perhaps the journey was made straight after George's arrest on 10th January 1835. Perhaps Thomas packed his family and goods on to his cart and '*immediately decamped*' to anywhere and eventually ended up in Bristol. Perhaps they took refuge with Ann Maria's family at Green Lane Tile Kilns, before settling on Bristol as the destination and travelling later in the year.

Whenever the journey was made, Thomas and Ann Maria had five children with them: Sarah Ann (18), Daniel William (8), Elizabeth Catherine (7), Edward (2) and James Moss (8 months). Three other children John Randall, Ann Maria Tarzey and William Henry had probably died and are never found in Bristol. George is in custody. Which leaves Thomas Daniel, the third child and second son, whose 16th birthday was on 12th March 1835 (see box on next page). If they left immediately, he may have been abandoned, or perhaps Thomas Daniel had time to proactively decide to stay with his maternal grandparents.

The distance from Edmonton to Bristol is about 125 miles. In 1835 there was no Great Western Railway, which did not run its first trains until 1838. The family was perhaps too poor to afford a stagecoach. They did have Thomas's horse and cart, which he had re-possessed following George's arrest. If the horse was in reasonable shape, the journey would take about a week. The Bath Road turnpike was well established in the 1830s. A winter journey would have been possible. Travelling in January, the family would have encountered muddy roads and/or cold weather, although the weather was not too bad that winter[7].

Bristol was far enough away from Edmonton for Thomas to be anonymous, easy enough to get to and a city with reasonable prospects. The slave trade on which the city had thrived in the 18th century had been abolished in 1807, however, even as Bristol competed with the up-start port of Liverpool and new manufacturing centres in the midlands and north, it remained prosperous enough for its population to grow from around 60,000 to 300,000 during the 19th century. In 1835 the Tarzeys would contribute seven to the figure.

[7] www.weatherweb.net

Thomas Daniel Tarsey (1819 to 1891) – Daniel William's second brother

Thomas Daniel was the second of Thomas and Ann Maria's five sons to reach adulthood (along with George, Daniel William, Edward and James Moss). He was left behind when the family fled Edmonton. Perhaps he was just not around, supporting the theory they left in a hurry. Perhaps, Thomas Daniel was away in London delivering goods, as later records list his occupation as a carman (cart driver), the same trade as his father and older brother George.

It may be that Thomas Daniel decided to stay in Edmonton with his maternal grandparents. By 1835 Daniel Cole and Ann Cole were living at Green Lane Tile Kilns in south Edmonton (his paternal grandparents, John and Ann Tarzey were both dead and buried at All Saints Edmonton).

In the 1841 census Thomas Daniel, aged 20, is in lodgings in the parish of St. Bartholomew-the-Great (central London), with Elizabeth Tarsey, aged 30. Thomas Daniel had married Elizabeth Hoople on 2nd Jan 1840 at Old Church, St. Pancras, London, the same church as Daniel and Ann Cole had married in 48 years earlier.

Thomas Daniel *Tarsey* died 1891, aged 73. He was living in Somers Town, near St. Pancras. Probate of £230 10s (about £30,000 in today's money) was granted to his son Thomas John Tarsey. He has living descendants, in the London area, that use the name *Tarsey*.

The early days of the Tarzeys in Bristol

Daniel William was around nine years old when the family arrived in Bristol. In a short space of time he had lost his two older brothers, to look up to, and/or, be led astray by. Sarah Ann was old enough to be more like a second mother but would soon be married. He had a younger sister, Elizabeth Catherine (7) and two young brothers, Edward (3) and James Moss (1), to tolerate and help out with.

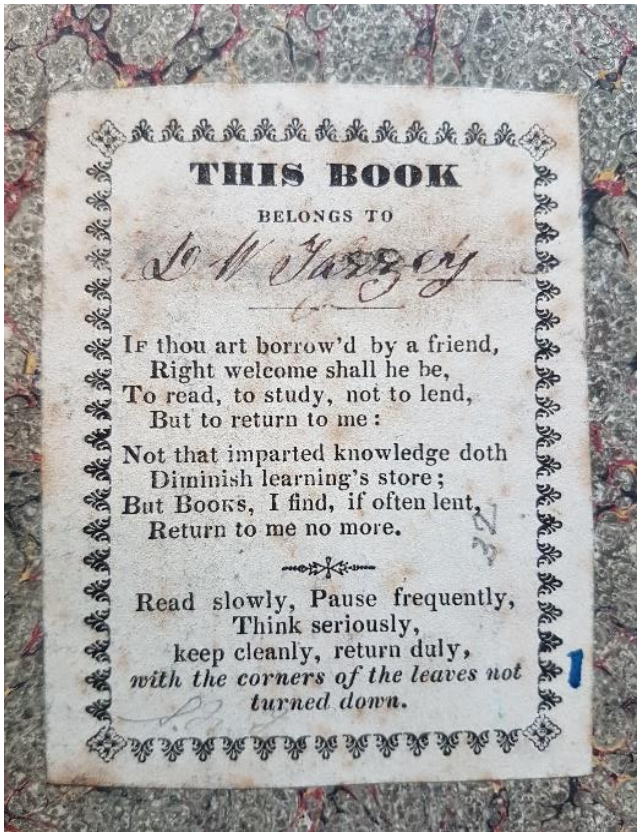
The first record of the Tarzeys in Bristol is Sarah Ann's marriage, aged 19, to Joseph Bailey (1811-1884) on 3rd May 1836. Joseph was a 25-year-old shipwright, originally from Hartpury, north of Gloucester. The marriage took place at St. Michael's church on St. Michael's Hill. Sarah Ann would have needed time to meet and court her future husband, so it seems reasonable to assume the family arrived in Bristol in 1835.

Where the Tarzey family first stayed is unknown. No residence information is provided with the marriage record for Joseph or Sarah Ann. It is possible that Joseph, or a member of his family, was an existing acquaintance of the Tarzeys who they turned to on arrival in Bristol, but there is no evidence for this.

As the family settled into life in Bristol, the Tarzey children would have started to adapt to their new surroundings. They would have arrived with Essex-like accents, but still be young enough for these to be influenced by, and change to, the native accents they now heard around them.

Daniel William and his two brothers seem to have received a better education than their father, paternal grandfather or older brothers. Daniel William was literate, he owned at least one book, '*A Young Man's Companion*', published in 1845, in which his name is written. This is the only item known to have belonged to Daniel William still in possession of the Bristol-based Tarzey family.

In 1838, now both aged about 43, Thomas and Ann Maria had another daughter, Catherine Anne Moss Tarzey, who is recorded as dying from smallpox in June 1840. She was buried at St. Mary Redcliffe. This was their 11th and last known child and the first birth of a Tarzey which was required to be formally registered following the establishment of the General Register Office in July 1837. However, no birth certificate has been found, but the death was registered by Sarah Ann Bailey, who signed with her mark (an 'X').


THIS BOOK

BELONGS TO

D. W. Tarzey

If thou art borrow'd by a friend,
Right welcome shall he be,
To read, to study, not to lend,
But to return to me:

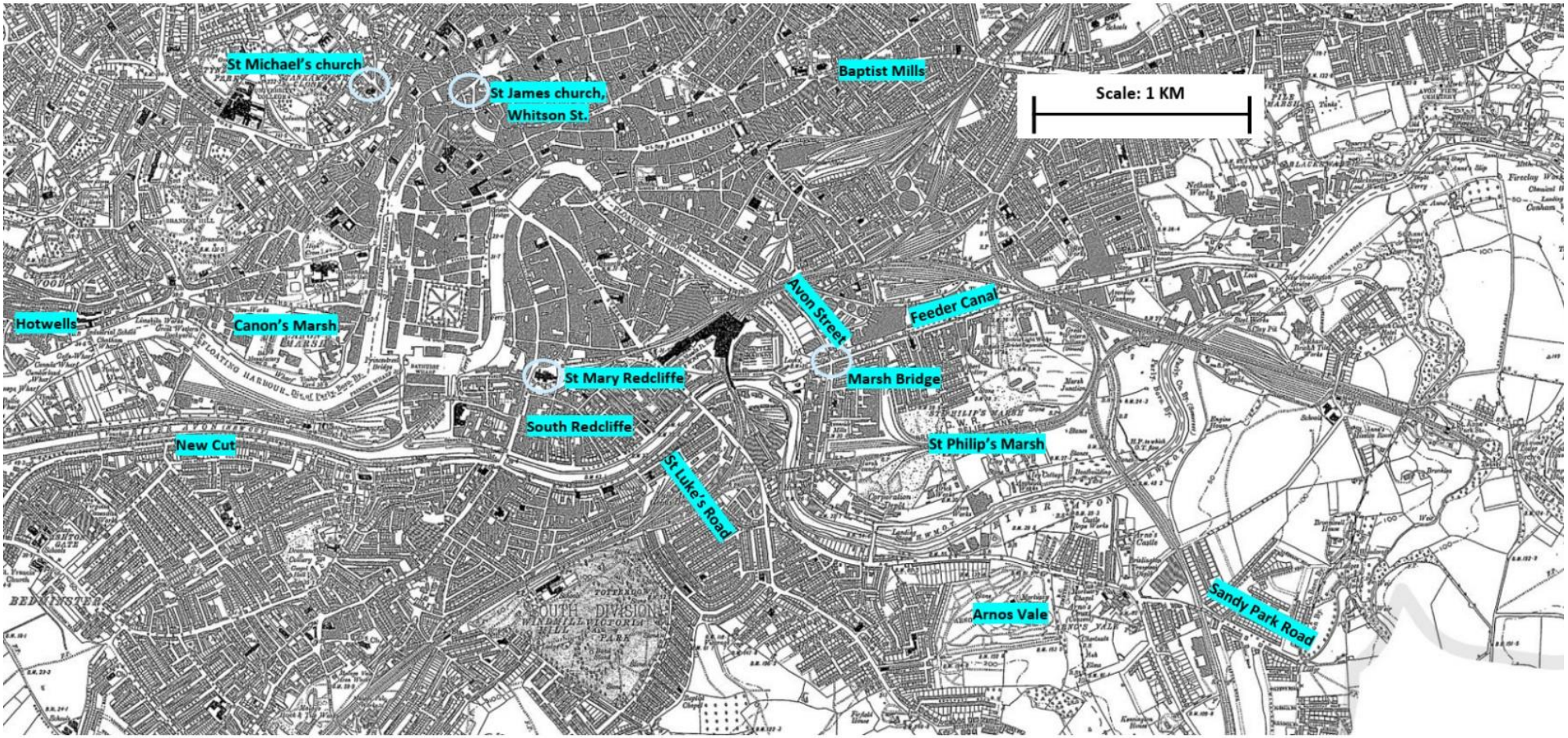
Not that imparted knowledge doth
Diminish learning's store;
But Books, I find, if often lent,
Return to me no more.

Read slowly, Pause frequently,
Think seriously,
keep cleanly, return duly,
with the corners of the leaves not turned down.

1

The inside cover of Daniel William's 1845 book showing his signature

Bristol area in late 19th Century, with Tarzey family locations



The mysterious Moss family

On 6th June 1841 the first modern UK census was taken. Each householder was required to complete a census schedule which contained the names, ages, sexes and occupations of each individual living at a given address. The information was recorded on pre-printed census schedules, which were left with a household before later being collected by the enumerator. If there was no one in the house who could write, the enumerator helped to record the information. Once collected, the schedules were copied by the enumerator into the official Census Enumerator's books. The original census schedules were destroyed; therefore, any mistakes made during transcription cannot be checked. With various changes a census has been held every ten years since 1841 (apart from 1941), so the second was carried out on 30th March 1851.

In both 1841 and 1851 the census for the Tarzey family was probably completed by the enumerator. Thomas was illiterate, and whilst Ann Maria could at least sign her name in later life (in 1856 as she signed for her son Edward's wages), there is little reason to suppose she could have completed a census form. Sarah Ann Bailey remained close by and was helping with family administration, but she too seems to have been illiterate, and whilst Daniel William was literate, in 1841 he was fifteen, perhaps too young to be completing census forms?

A nationwide search of the 1841 and 1851 censuses for the name '*Tarzey*' returns no results. However, in both cases, a family with almost exactly matching names and ages for the Tarzey family that left Edmonton in 1835 can be found living in St. Philip's Marsh in Bristol under the surname '*Moss*'. The use of the wrong surname could be a clerical error by the enumerator, but that seems unlikely; why would the name Moss be plucked out of thin air by a bureaucrat? More likely, is that Thomas and Ann Maria, suspicious of the new census process, used the name Moss to distance themselves from their Tarzey past in Edmonton.

Moss was Ann Maria's mother's maiden name and had been used as a second name for two of their children (*James Moss Tarsey* and *Catherine Anne Moss Tarzey*). Thomas and Ann Maria would use Moss as a surname for a third time in the 1861 census and later that year it would be immortalised in stone, when the family included it on Thomas's gravestone, memorialising him as *Thomas Moss Tarzey*. Perhaps the real question is why the family did not abandon the name Tarzey altogether? However, by 1861 Thomas and Ann Maria's grown-up sons had reverted to *Tarzey* or *Tarsey* on their own census forms.

The 1841 census is not specific about location, simply listing St. Philip's Marsh as the family's address, an area where many of the Tarzey family would live over the next 60-70 years. In 1851 the family's address is 65 Beaches Cottage, somewhere near Feeder Road on St. Philip's Marsh.

As well as the use of the name Moss, there are some other problems with the 1841 census record. Thomas and Ann Maria were a bit younger than the age they give of 50, so perhaps the enumerator guessed their ages. Seven-year-old James Moss is missing from the record and there is a young girl, Jane, listed who is unrecorded elsewhere, perhaps a clerical mix-up. Thomas and Ann Maria list themselves as *not* '*of this county*', while the children are listed as '*of this county*', which is incorrect. The 1851 census provides a strong match, although a granddaughter Teresa, aged 10, is listed who is found nowhere else. What is more, the 1851 census requires a place of birth to be provided and '*Middlesex, London*' is given for all members of the family, apart from James Moss where it just says '*London*'.

In 1841 Joseph and Sarah Ann Bailey are living next door to the Moss/Tarzey family. Joseph lists his occupation as a shipwright. If he had entered the trade as an apprentice, this could have been as early as 1827, when he would have been 15. Many Tarzeys would go on to take up the same trade, including Daniel William himself in May 1841. It may well be that Sarah Ann, via her new husband, provided Thomas and Ann Maria with the contacts to secure their son an apprenticeship. It could also be that Thomas found labouring work around the docks and met Joseph, and introduced him to Sarah Ann.

In 1851 another Bristol-born carpenter/shipwright is recorded as lodging with the Moss/Tarzeys, George Martin, aged 23. He would marry Daniel William's younger sister Elizabeth Catherine on 12th February 1852. Perhaps George Martin was a work colleague of Daniel William's, offered a room in the Tarzey's home, and he met Elizabeth Catherine after moving in.

1851 would be the last census when Daniel William Tarzey was living with his parents, as in 1852 he would marry for the first time. By now he was not a bad catch, as he had completed his apprenticeship as a shipwright in 1848, a skill that would set him up for life.

A family of boat- and ship-builders

If Joseph Bailey did provide introductions to the boat and shipbuilding industry when the Tarzeys arrived in Bristol, then he helped set the family up for three generations. Thomas and Ann Maria would have been familiar with the opportunities offered by maritime activity through Ann Maria's parents and other contacts in central London. Having failed their two eldest sons, they hoped for better for their younger sons; all three would work in shipbuilding early in their careers. For Daniel William boatbuilding would be his main occupation until retirement.

Shipbuilding would also be the chosen career of future generations of male Tarzeys. All three of Daniel William's sons would work as shipbuilders, as would at least one of his grandsons. At least four of his nephews, a son of Edward Tarzey, a son of James Moss Tarsey and two sons of George and Elizabeth Catherine Martin, would enter the trade.

Despite the floating harbour[8] which opened in 1809, the Bristol docks went into decline in the second half of the 19th century, marginalised by competition from Liverpool, Portsmouth and Southampton, which were less dependent on tides. Furthermore, the new Avonmouth docks, opened in 1877, took remaining trade down the river Avon, from the city to the Severn estuary. Two of Daniel William's sons, and his nephew via James Moss, responded to this by moving to Portsmouth to pursue their careers.

Thanks to the Portsmouth Tarzeys more is known about Daniel William's career than either of his brothers as the indenture[9] document[10] confirming his 1841 apprenticeship survived. It is the earliest of a collection of three such documents, the second is dated 1884 and relates to Daniel William's eldest son Daniel Joseph and the third is dated 1912 relating to Daniel Joseph's son, and Daniel William's grandson, Sidney Percival.

Daniel William's indenture document was signed on 28th May 1841, when he had just turned 15, and he entered a seven-year apprenticeship with James Hill Ship and Boat Builders of Canon's Marsh, Bristol. Thomas has counter-signed the indenture for his son with his mark, an 'X'. The weekly pay schedule for the term of the apprenticeship is set out, three shillings in the first year, rising to eight shillings in the seventh year (in today's money that starts at £15 per week rising to £40). James Hill has written a certification on the indenture on 8th December 1849 confirming that Daniel William has '*served the whole of the time specified*', taking eight, rather than seven years, to complete his training.

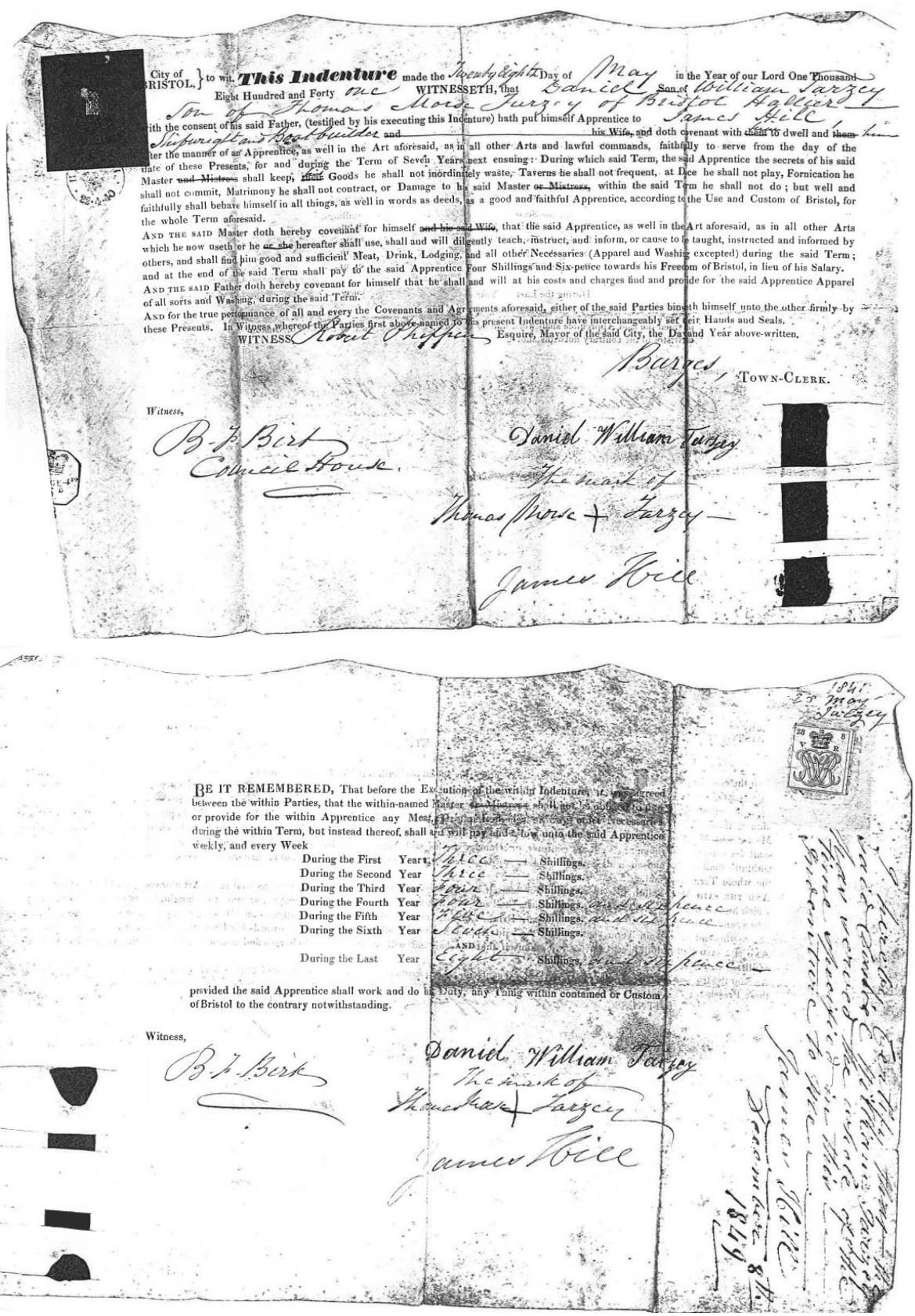
Daniel William worked as a boatbuilder for most of the rest of his working life, although he tried his hand as a publican for a few years in the early 1870s. He may have carried on working for James Hill at Canon's Marsh after his apprenticeship or for other employers. In 1878 he obtained his own business which would soon become – *Daniel William Tarzey and Sons, Boatbuilders*.

---

[8] The floating harbour follows the natural course of the River Avon through the city of Bristol. Lock gates at the downstream end (Cumberland Basin), hold water back, allowing ships to remain afloat at low tide. The harbour was kept topped by the upstream Feeder Canal, whilst the natural flow was diverted over Netham Weir to another canal, the New Cut.

[9] A legal document confirming an agreement between two parties, in this case the terms of an apprenticeship with an employer

[10] The descendants of Daniel Joseph Tarzey ensured the indenture documents for three generations of Tarzeys; Daniel William, Daniel Joseph and Sidney Percival, were maintained and passed on to the Portsmouth Dockyard Apprentice Museum.



City of BRISTOL, } to wit. **This Indenture** made the Twenty Eighth Day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty one WITNESSETH, that Daniel William Tarzey Son of William Tarzey Son of Thomas Morse Tarzey of Bristol Hatter with the consent of his said Father, (testified by his executing this Indenture) hath put himself Apprentice to James Hill Shipwright and Boat Builder and his Wife, and doth covenant with them to dwell and them after the manner of an Apprentice, as well in the Art aforesaid, as in all other Arts and lawful commands, faithfully to serve from the day of the date of these Presents, for and during the Term of Seven Years next ensuing: During which said Term, the said Apprentice the secrets of his said Master and Mistress shall keep, their Goods he shall not inordinately waste, Taverns he shall not frequent, at Dice he shall not play, Fornication he shall not commit, Matrimony he shall not contract, or Damage to his said Master or Mistress, within the said Term he shall not do; but well and faithfully shall behave himself in all things, as well in words as deeds, as a good and faithful Apprentice, according to the Use and Custom of Bristol, for the whole Term aforesaid.

AND THE SAID Master doth hereby covenant for himself and his said Wife, that the said Apprentice, as well in the Art aforesaid, as in all other Arts which he now useth or he or she hereafter shall use, shall and will diligently teach, instruct, and inform, or cause to be taught, instructed and informed by others, and shall find him good and sufficient Meat, Drink, Lodging, and all other Necessaries (Apparel and Washing excepted) during the said Term; and at the end of the said Term shall pay to the said Apprentice Four Shillings and Six-pence towards his Freedom of Bristol, in lieu of his Salary.

AND THE SAID Father doth hereby covenant for himself that he shall and will at his costs and charges find and provide for the said Apprentice Apparel of all sorts and Washing, during the said Term.

AND for the true performance of all and every the Covenants and Agreements aforesaid, either of the said Parties bindeth himself unto the other firmly by these Presents. In Witness whereof the Parties first above-named to this present Indenture have interchangeably set their Hands and Seals.

WITNESS Robert Shippen Esquire, Mayor of the said City, the Day and Year above-written.

Burges / TOWN-CLERK.

Witness,

B. J. Birt
Council House.

Daniel William Tarzey
The mark of
Thomas Morse + Tarzey
James Hill

1841 May Tarzey

BE IT REMEMBERED, That before the Execution of the within Indenture, it was agreed between the within Parties, that the within-named Master or Mistress shall not be obliged to find or provide for the within Apprentice any Meat, Drink, Lodging, or other Necessaries during the within Term, but instead thereof, shall and will pay and allow unto the said Apprentice weekly, and every Week

During the First	Years,	Three — Shillings.
During the Second	Year	Three — Shillings.
During the Third	Year	Four — Shillings.
During the Fourth	Year	Four — Shillings. and Six-pence
During the Fifth	Year	Five — Shillings. and Six-pence
During the Sixth	Year	Seven — Shillings.
During the Last	Year	AND Eight — Shillings. and Six-pence

provided the said Apprentice shall work and do his Duty, any Thing within contained or Custom of Bristol to the contrary notwithstanding.

Witness,

B. J. Birt

Daniel William Tarzey
The mark of
Thomas Morse + Tarzey
James Hill

1849 Sept 8th

Daniel William Tarzey's 1841 indenture document with James Hill. The second page is countersigned eight years later to indicate completion.

Sarah Jones – Daniel William's first wife

There is little doubt that Daniel William enjoyed female company. He married three times. His second and third marriages were to younger women and both probably necessitated by pregnancy. His first marriage to Sarah Jones, on 14th March 1852 at St. Mary Redcliffe church, was more straight forward. Daniel William was 26 and she the 24-year-old daughter of Thomas Jones, a local brickmaker.

Sarah's family lived on Cathay in South Redcliffe, a now disappeared street that ran southeast from St. Mary Redcliffe church towards the New Cut. Travelling between his parents' home in St. Philip's Marsh and Canon's Marsh, where he probably still worked, would have taken Daniel William through this area. Perhaps he met Sarah socialising in the local pubs, or via one of his work colleagues. On the right, walking down Cathay towards the river, was Prewett Street, which still exists today, where Daniel William had recently moved from his parents' in St. Philip's Marsh, perhaps in preparation for his life together with Sarah.

After seven years of what appears to have been childless marriage, Sarah died, on 27th December 1859, aged just 31. The cause of death is given as '*phthisis*', an old term for tuberculosis. The given address for Daniel William and Sarah at the time was Vincent Place, a street that no longer exists, just south of Prewett Street.

The death required Daniel William to buy the grave at Arnos Vale he would eventually lie in himself. The purchase date is given as 30th December 1859 and Sarah was buried on 3rd January 1860. A second adjacent grave was purchased six weeks later by Daniel William's younger brother Edward; he and his wife Sarah were burying their first child, James Edward Tarzey, who had died aged three months and was buried on 19th February 1860.

Following the death of Sarah, the 1861 census, taken on April 7th, records Daniel William lodging as a single man again, on Paradise Road (which no longer exists), near the Star Pub (now the Aurora) in Bedminster. This would not last long as in May 1861 Daniel William would marry for the second time.

Eunice Hooper – Daniel William's second wife - and parenthood

Daniel William married 20-year-old Eunice Hooper on 1st May 1861 at St. Michael's church on St. Michael's Hill (the same church in which his sister had married in 1836). Their marriage certificate records them as both living on St. Michael's Hill. If the couple were co-habiting prior to the wedding, a mile or so from Redcliffe, this have may been to distance themselves from local gossip, as Eunice was already pregnant. However, the address is not specific and may have been short term or given as an administrative convenience. By December 1861 the couple would be living in Hotwells, near the boatyards Daniel William had worked in for many years.

Eunice Hooper was 15 years younger than Daniel William, born on 28th December 1840 on Redcliff Street. Her parents were William, a publican, and Catherine (nee Peterson). She was probably born in her father's pub; in 1839 he is listed as the landlord of The Chequers on Redcliff Backs[11]. Eunice worked as milliner prior to the marriage.

Daniel William had spent most of the 1850s living in Redcliffe, so it seems likely they met locally. It is possible he got to know Eunice whilst Sarah was still alive, the gap between her death and the marriage was seventeen months. This closes to 14 months allowing for the conception of their first child born on 3rd November 1861, just 187 days (six months) after the marriage, which is 93 days short of the average human gestation period. It may be significant that the marriage was not witnessed by family members, but by two strangers to this account, W. J. Sladen and John Richards.

The marriage certificate refers to Daniel William's father (Thomas) as '*William Tarzey, Mariner*'. Similarly, in 1882, when he married for the third time (also necessitated by pregnancy), Daniel William described his father as a '*sailor*'. No other records of Thomas suggest he was anything other than a haulier or labourer. Perhaps Daniel William was trying to reimagine his father's murky past.

In the early years of their relationship Daniel William, perhaps influenced by Eunice and her father, tried his hand as a publican. In November 1861, six months after the marriage, their first child, a daughter Catherine Blanche, was born. On the baptism record, Daniel William describes himself as a victualler and shipwright. In 1863, Daniel William is listed as proprietor of the Foresters' Arms at 75 Hotwell Road[12] and a William Tarzey is listed as proprietor of the Swan[11]; no evidence of the latter pub has been found and no William Tarzey is known other than Daniel William himself. Perhaps he briefly ran two pubs.

According to The Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Public House in Bristol[13], Hotwells was not a pleasant area; '*the housing, which was mostly let in lodgings at high rents, there was overcrowding, 'dirt' and disease*' and pubs were common-place '*nearby 'on one side of Cumberland-buildings, Cumberland Basin, in a frontage of eight houses, there are five beer shops*'. Daniel William and Eunice did not last long here, before returning to be closer to family in St. Philip's Marsh.

By March 1865, with the second career abandoned, Daniel William describes himself as just a shipwright again, when a second child, a son William Daniel, was born (he died from '*diarrhoea*' aged 11 months). The family was by then living on Treefield Road in Baptist Mills, north of St. Philip's Marsh (the road no longer exists, but there is a Treefield Place). A second daughter Sarah Elizabeth

[11] Bristol Lost Pubs https://bristolslostpubs.eu/index.html
[12] Bristol Information - List Bristol Pubs And Landlords https://www.bristolinformation.co.uk/srch/srchit.asp?urx=kr:40;gdoc:pl;pn:29;
[13] The Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Public House in Bristol https://research.historicengland.org.uk/Report.aspx?i=15788

(later known as Sally) was also born there on 3rd April 1867. By now Daniel William is referring to himself as a '*shipwright (foreman)*'.

By 4th June 1869, when another son, Daniel Joseph was born, Daniel William and Eunice were living at 12 Duffett's Buildings on Feeder Road, where Daniel William would live for over 30 years. Their final child, Edward Hooper, was born there on Christmas day 1871.

The deaths of Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey

Whether Thomas was at his son's second wedding would be interesting to know, as he died of typhus three months after the event, on 30th July 1861 at the age of 66. In the 1861 census Thomas and Ann Maria are listed as living together at Avon Cottages, on Avon Street, which runs north of the Marsh Bridge from St. Philip's Marsh; they still gave the name of Moss to the census takers. Their second daughter, Elizabeth Catherine, and her husband George Martin are living at the same address.

Thomas left Ann Maria a widow after 48 years of marriage. The death would involve the purchase of a third Tarzey family grave near the other two at Arnos Vale on 1st August 1861. Thomas was the first of four occupants, buried on August 5th. He would later be joined by Ann Maria in 1871, their son-in-law Joseph Bailey in 1884 and his wife, their eldest daughter, Sarah Ann in 1903.

Ann Maria outlived Thomas by 10 years, dying on 31st May 1871, aged 77, whilst visiting family in London (her body must have been transported back to lie with Thomas in Arnos Vale). According to the 1871 census she was living with her youngest son, James Moss *Tarsey* at his pub, the Cooper's Arms on Victoria Street in St. Philip's Marsh.

When Thomas died, he already had several grandchildren, some, born to his second son Thomas Daniel Tarsey in London, who he may never have met. Ann Maria saw many more grandchildren born, and often die, than Thomas, and may well have met the London-based grandchildren on visits back to her family.

St. Philip's Marsh in the second half of the 19th century

St. Philip's Marsh is effectively an island, bounded by the River Avon to the south and the Feeder Canal to the north. The Feeder is the upstream connection of the River Avon with Bristol's Floating Harbour, which opened in 1809. In the 19th century St. Philip's Marsh was a mixed residential and industrial area, providing low cost housing for around six thousand people. Today, most of the houses have gone, replaced by car show rooms, industrial units and a recycling tip. From their arrival in Bristol in 1835, until the early 20th century, the Tarzeys would live in and around St. Philip's Marsh, more than anywhere else.

Running alongside the Feeder Canal is Feeder Road. Towards its western end is a crossroads, to the north is the Marsh Bridge crossing the canal on to Avon Street. To the south is Albert Road and after about 100 metres a left fork onto Victoria Road. In the last decades of the 19th century many of the Tarzeys were living and working close to this crossroads.

On the south-east corner of the crossroads was Dove Inn, which was demolished in 1962 to enable the widening of Victoria Street and provide part of the site of, what is now, a car show room. Beyond this on Feeder Road was a block of terraces called Duffett's Buildings, probably built in the mid-19th century and since mostly demolished. Daniel William and his second wife Eunice had moved in at number 12 in about 1868. Edward and his wife Sarah lived at number 24. A pub building, once the Foresters' Arms, which occupied numbers 19 and 20, still exists alongside a more recent Edwardian terrace.

Around the corner on Albert Road was a boatyard, clearly marked on a map dating from 1896 (see map). Daniel William's boatyard was at 2 Albert Street. As this is the only boatyard marked, it seems reasonable to assume this was the premises of his business from around 1878. Still standing next to the site, back towards the Marsh Bridge, is a brick-built warehouse now used by Chaunceys Timber Flooring, whose main premises is over the road at 9 Victoria Road; this building would have been standing when Tarzeys worked at the boatyard.

Number 6 Victoria Road was the Coopers' Arms, where James Moss Tarsey was landlord for twenty years, and his wife Hannah would take over after his death in 1890. The building is still there, now converted to flats. Sarah Ann and Joseph Bailey lived next to the boatyard at 3 Albert Street and Catherine and George Martin at Cock Cottage, St. Philip's Marsh, the exact whereabouts of which is unknown.

North west St. Philips Marsh in 1896, from Bristol Fire Insurance Maps. Home to the late Victorian Tarzeys

Tragedy – Eunice Tarzey's suicide

Between 19:00 and 20:00 on the evening of Sunday 9th March 1873 tragedy struck; Eunice committed suicide, aged 32. She and Daniel William had been married for 12 years. Her surviving four children were aged 12, 6, 3 and just over 1 years old.

Eunice's suicide caused a stir, the Western Daily Press (11th March) and the Bristol Mercury (15th March) both reported the findings of an inquest held on Monday 10th March at the '*Avon House tavern, St. Philip's*', it is not clear exactly where this pub was[14].

According to the Western Daily Press, a neighbour, Mary Ann Clapp, also living at Duffett's Buildings, said *'she was sitting at her door, when she saw a woman cross the road and go towards the bank. Subsequently she heard someone scream 'murder' three times, and she therefore gave an alarm, and some men came and got the body of deceased out of the water'.*

Eunice had thrown herself in the Feeder Canal, a short distance above St. Philip's Marsh bridge, opposite the family's house at 12 Duffett's Buildings. The Mercury adds, '*immediately after she heard a scream coming from the water, and, running across the road, she saw the deceased struggling in the water. She immediately raised an alarm, but the body was not recovered for upwards of a quarter of an hour, when it was conveyed to her late residence, and a medical man was at once sent for, but all efforts at resuscitation proved unavailing, and, on the arrival of the doctor, she was pronounced dead*'.

Daniel William said of late his wife a had been '*very melancholy indeed without any apparent cause. He was on good terms with her and could give no reason why she committed suicide. She was particularly low on Friday and Saturday'*. The Mercury adds Daniel William as saying, '*on Saturday last, she did nothing but cry the whole day, and on that night she was in the same depressed spirits, but on Sunday she seemed a little better'.*

The coroner, in summing-up, said there could be no doubt that the deceased committed suicide, and they would have to consider what state of mind she was in at the time of the occurrence. The jury returned the verdict '*That the deceased committed suicide, being at the time of unsound mind*'. A 21st century inquiry may have considered post-natal depression, however, this usually occurs in the months immediately following a birth and Eunice's last child was 14 months old at the time.

The event was said to have '*cast a gloom over the neighbourhood, and, as a mark of sympathy and respect, most of the houses in the immediate vicinity had either shutters up or the blinds closely drawn*'.

It would be nine years before Daniel William married for the third time. In the interim he would have been a single father with four children, the youngest, Edward Hooper, just a toddler. His mother was no longer around to help, she had died in 1871, however, Daniel William seems to have held his family together, perhaps with the support of his Bristol-based brothers and sisters, all nearby, living in St. Philip's Marsh.

[14] Bristol Lost Pubs https://bristolslostpubs.eu/index.html

Daniel William's own business – D.W. Tarzey and Sons

Five years after Eunice's death, in 1878 when Daniel William was 52, the Mathews' Bristol Directory (later Wrights') lists '*Tarzey, J, boat builder*'. This is the first mention in the directory of a Tarzey as a boatbuilder. The use of the J may indicate an involvement of Daniel William's youngest brother, James Moss Tarsey.

Another family researcher, Christine Field (a descendent of Thomas Daniel Tarsey), told the author in December 2012 she had found the will of a John Lloyd, the executors for which were his brother William Lloyd and James Moss Tarsey and that '*Daniel Tarsey probably gained his shipbuilding business from William Lloyd, on the death of his brother, John Lloyd*'. No evidence has been found of the will via online databases and the author has not been able to recontact Christine Field.

Whatever the background, all mentions of the boatbuilding business from 1879 onwards at 2 Albert Road refer to '*D*' or '*D W Tarzey*'. Daniel William had left the employment of James Hill at some point in the last 30 years, perhaps before he become a landlord in early 1870s, and was now starting up his own business.

Daniel William's obituary (1917) refers to him as having made '*small boats for the African trade'*, which probably refers to the barter trade for minerals and cash crops in West Africa. Small boats may refer to those used for transporting goods to and from shore and/or for trading up-river.

It is not known for sure how small the boats were. Daniel William's boatyard, at 2 Albert Road was small in itself, about 20m by 8m, and it was on dry land and about 80m from the landing stage by the Marsh Bridge (see map on page 26). Furthermore, the whole site was at the far end of the floating harbour, a long way from the main docks and the river connection to the open seas. If the boats he built were completed on-site they would have had to be manhandled up Victoria Street, to the harbour. It is possible the workshop was used to make parts and the boats themselves were constructed nearer the water.

The business would also initiate careers for Daniel William's two older sons by Eunice. In 1879, the register changes the listing to '*Tarzey D. and Sons*', boat builders. Daniel Joseph would have been about 10 and Edward Hooper about 8, perhaps already starting to work alongside their father. On 23rd December 1884, at the age of 15, Daniel Joseph was formally indentured to his father for seven years as a '*shipwright and boat builder*'. It is quite possible Edward Hooper was also indentured two years later, but no document has been found.

D W Tarzey and Sons is listed as a business every year until 1903, when Daniel was 77 and seems to have finally closed or sold the business. He may have retired some time before this. His sons had left well before 1903. Daniel Joseph had moved to Portsmouth by 1896, where the boatbuilding tradition would continue via Daniel William's grandson Sidney Percival, who was indentured to his own father in 1912. Edward Hooper had been working as a cooper (barrel maker) since at least 1891 according to census records, a craft which required similar skills to boatbuilding.

Elizabeth Browning – Daniel William's third wife

On 26th April 1882 Daniel William married for the third time, to Elizabeth Browning. Elizabeth was born in Bideford, Devon, her father was Joseph Browning, a farmer. By 1881 she was living on, the now disappeared, Grafton Street in St. Philip's Marsh, which ran behind (south of) Duffett's Buildings, which is presumably how she met her neighbour Daniel William Tarzey.

The marriage certificate describes Elizabeth as a spinster aged 40. The age is wrong, three censuses and her death certificate all give her birth year as 1846. This would have made her about 36 when she married Daniel William, who was 56, although he gives an age of 50. Perhaps there was a deliberate attempt to close the gap between their ages from twenty to ten years. 5 Jamaica Street is given as their address, which is strange, as Daniel William was living at 12 Duffett's Buildings in 1881 and again in 1884, where the couple would live together for over 20 years. Either they had moved into a new home together for a short time (with or without the children) before returning to the old family home, or Jamaica Street was an address used just for the wedding, which was conducted at the nearby parish church of St. James on Whitson Street (today this is a catholic church, but in 1882 it was Church of England).

As with Daniel William's second marriage, the wedding was necessitated by Elizabeth having fallen pregnant, as less than 200 days later, on 9th November 1882, a daughter, Helena Louise was born, 80 days short of the average time for human gestation. Helena was born in Bideford, perhaps Elizabeth had gone back to her family for a few months to avoid Bristol-based speculation about when the child was conceived. Again, like the second marriage, the third is not witnessed by family members, but strangers to this account, a couple – William and Mary Brooks – and the chosen church is away from the gossip of St. Philip's Marsh.

Elizabeth would go on to have a second child when she was 40, Ernest William Daniel, on 28th January 1888 at 12 Feeder Road (this is still Duffett's Buildings, at some point the postal system changed from using terrace names to road names). Throughout the 1890s Elizabeth is listed in Bristol business directories as working from home as a haberdasher.

The 1891 census shows Daniel William (65) and Elizabeth (45) still living on Feeder Road with four children: Daniel Joseph (21), Edward Hooper (19), Helena (8) and Ernest (3). It seems that Daniel William's older sons were comfortable living with their stepmother following the childhood trauma of their own mother's suicide. His elder daughters Catherine Blanche and Sarah Elizabeth were both now married. The 1901 census shows Daniel William aged 75 still living at 12 Feeder Road (Duffett's Buildings) with Elizabeth, Helena, now working as a draper's assistant, and Ernest.

Daniel William Tarzey in old age

The 1890s would see Daniel William's siblings starting to die. The first, other than George who had died in 1838 in Van Diemen's Land, was James Moss Tarsey, who died aged 56 on 7th September 1890 from *alcoholic epilepsy* at the Coopers' Arms, 5 Victoria Road, St. Philip's Marsh, the pub he had been running for at least 20 years. His wife Hannah, continued to run the pub.

In May 1891, Thomas Daniel Tarsey died in '*Pancras*' aged 73. He was the surviving of Daniel William's older two brothers, who had remained in London in 1835. It is not known if they had remained in touch, however their mother, Ann Maria, had revisited the family in her later years.

Daniel William's older sister, Sarah Ann Bailey, died in 1903 aged 87 and is buried along with her husband Joseph in the same grave as her father and mother, Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey. Daniel William's younger brother Edward died in 1909 aged 76, still living at 24 Feeder Road (Duffett's Buildings). Only the youngest sister, Elizabeth Catherine, outlived Daniel William, dying in 1920 aged 92.

Daniel William saw all but one of his six surviving children marry. The oldest, Catherine Blanche, in 1887, followed by her younger sister, Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) in 1890; confusingly, both would marry cousins from the same family, both called Edwin Hickery. Edward Hooper would marry Amelia Florence Smart in 1895 and Daniel Joseph, having moved to Portsmouth, would marry Jessica Lewis in 1896. Ernest William, Daniel William's youngest son by Elizabeth, would marry Florence Louisa Ford in Portsmouth in 1910, having followed his half-brother, Daniel Joseph, there. Helena (Nell) would marry Francis (Frank) Dinham in April 1917 just two months after Daniel William died. In December 1915, Edward Hooper's wife Amelia died leaving him a widower aged 46, a sad parallel of Daniel William's own life.

There was new life, too. Daniel William would have nine grandchildren by the time he died, the first Elsie in 1888 to Catherine Blanche and Edwin Caleb Hickery, followed by Laura in 1890 and Thomas Daniel in 1896. Sally and Edwin Hickery would have a daughter, Eleanor Blanche in 1892, she would have a joint baptism with her younger cousin Thomas Daniel in 1896, marking the closeness between the two sisters and their cousin husbands.

Daniel Joseph and Jessica Tarzey would have two children, Sidney Percival in 1897, and Vera Gladys in 1900. Edward Hooper and Amelia Tarzey would also have two, Mildred Eunice in 1896 and Edward Gilbert Edward (known as Gilbert) in 1898. Helena had no children and Ernest William and Florence Tarzey one daughter, Norah, in 1915. One further grandchild would be born after Daniel William's death, Barbara, in 1932, to Edward Hooper and his second wife, Nina, who he married in 1931.

Daniel William had at least sixteen great grandchildren, however, despite his great age, given that Daniel William himself did not have his first child until he was 35, he did not live long enough to see his first great grandchild born in 1918.

Sometime between 1901 and 1905, Daniel William, Elizabeth and Helena would move from Duffett's Buildings on Feeder Road, after over 30 years, to a new build 101 Sandy Park Road, in Brislington, then on the edge of Bristol. The recently constructed Edwardian properties are advertised for rental in the Western Daily Press from around 1901. The move would have been a step up for the family from the terraces of St. Philip's Marsh. Although Duffett's buildings would be demolished at some point, it may not have been this that caused the family to uproot, as Daniel William's brother Edward would die at number 24 in 1909.

Perhaps the move was in 1903, the likely year Ernest moved to Portsmouth, aged 15, to start an apprenticeship with Daniel Joseph. The first record of Daniel William at Sandy Park Road was in 1905 when, after 23 years of marriage, Elizabeth died from an aortic aneurism.

In 1901 Edward Hooper and Amelia were living at 6 Fitzroy Street in Totterdown, but by 1906, when Gilbert and Mildred were baptised, they are also at 101 Sandy Park Road. Who moved in with who, and when, is not known, nor are the circumstances that led to this co-habitation. On the 1911 census, Daniel William, Helena, Edward Hooper, Eunice and Mildred are all still together at 101 Sandy Park Road. Gilbert, now aged 12, is a boarder at Colston's Endowed School for Boys. The census form is signed by Daniel William and he is listed as of '*independent means*'. Now aged 84, Daniel William may have been in reasonable health or perhaps Helena was caring for him.

At some point after 1911 Daniel William, and perhaps Helena, moved in to 17 St. Luke's Road with his eldest daughter, Catherine Blanche Hickery and her family, which is where he died in 1917.

The death of Daniel William Tarzey

On 11th February 1917, with the first world war raging in Europe and three grandsons in the front line, Daniel William Tarzey died aged 91 at 17 St. Luke's Road. The primary cause of death was given as '*senectus*', which basically means old-age, the secondary cause was acute bronchitis. Helena, who registered his death, is recorded as with her father when he died.

Daniel William's life and age were considered remarkable enough for the Western Daily Press to publish an obituary on Wednesday 28th February 1917:

'The death of Mr. D. W. Tarzey of St. Luke's Road, Bedminster, removes one who had a direct recollection of the launching of the Great Western, the first steamship built for Atlantic traffic, and also of the Great Britain, the great ambitious creation of Brunel that followed. The deceased citizen served his apprenticeship in one of the yards at Canons Marsh and afterwards made a speciality building small boats for the African trade. Shipping matters were thus brought under his daily observation and about ten years ago, in an interview with an Evening News representative he gave many interesting reminiscences of the city docks and the Avon from the completion of the Great Western in 1837 down to more recent times. He was a boy when the pioneer of the Atlantic service started her curious career and as he lived to be ninety-one his life covered a period of peculiar importance in the history of the port. The financial difficulties of the company which dockised that part of the tidal Avon in the city; the damage done to local businesses by the consequent prohibitive dock dues; the free port movement and the assumption of control of the docks by the Corporation; the discussion about river mouth developments leading up to the provision of the present facilities. All came within the span of this exceptionally long life.'

It can only be speculated as to who the mourners were at the graveside at Arnos Vale when Daniel William was lowered in to join his three wives on 1st March 1917. Including partners, the immediate family numbered over twenty.

Elizabeth Catherine Martin, his only surviving sibling, now aged 89, may have struggled to the graveside, perhaps supported by one or more of her children; her husband was long-dead. Four of Daniel William's children were still living in Bristol: Catherine Blanche, Sarah Elizabeth, Edward Hooper and Helena. There is no reason to think any of them had fallen out with their father and all four were likely to be at the graveside.

Edward Hooper was by then a widower and Helena unmarried (she would marry Francis Dinham two months later), but Sally and Blanche would probably have been accompanied by their respective Edwin Hickery husbands, both still alive at the time. Between the four of them Daniel William had four granddaughters: Elsie 29, Laura 27, Eleanor Blanche 25 and Mildred 21, who may have been there, and two grandsons who were both serving in the army, Thomas Daniel Hickery 21, a sapper with the Royal Engineers and Edward Gilbert Tarzey 19, who was training at the Chiseldon Camp in Wiltshire.

There may have been a contingent of six or seven from Portsmouth where the other two sons, Daniel Joseph and Ernest William, were by now living with their wives. Between them Daniel William had two granddaughters: Vera Gladys 17 and Norah 2 and a grandson, Sidney Percival 20, who was serving in the navy, based out of Portsmouth.

In financial terms Daniel William did not die a wealthy man. His probate record reads as follows:

'Tarzey Daniel William of 17 St. Luke's Road Totterdown, Bristol shipwright died 24 February 1917. Probate Bristol January to Edward Hooper Tarzey and Helena Louisa Dinham (wife of Frank Dinham), Effects £234.'

In today's money this would be worth about £14,000-15,000, not a life-changing fortune. There is no known will. Probate was granted to Edward Hooper and Helena, this may just be a matter of convenience, Daniel William was probably still living with Helena when he died, and he had been co-habiting with Edward Hooper and his family as recently as 1911. They may well have shared the proceeds with their other four siblings.

The Arnos Vale graves

In 2012, the author's father John Edward Richard Tarzey, then aged 80, decided to try and rediscover the grave of his grandfather, Edward Hooper Tarzey (Daniel William and Eunice's youngest son) at Arnos Vale. He enlisted the help of the author's sister, Joanna Redman, and aided by the Arnos Vale Cemetery Trust the grave, numbered UUU534, was duly located.

If Edward Hooper, who lived in around St. Philip's Marsh much of his early life, was buried at Arnos Vale, surely other Tarzeys may also be buried there? The discovery inspired a further search and three more family graves were located, all previously unknown to the present-day Tarzey family. Their proximity to each other suggests a cosy family plot, but this is not so. To understand why, it is necessary to look at the initial occupants.

The grave numbers, S331, S334 and S437, were assigned chronologically by the cemetery authorities, so S331 was the first to be dug and S437 the last. The first occupant of grave S331 was Sarah Tarzey, the first of Daniel William's three wives, who died on 27th December 1859 aged 31 and was buried on 3rd January 1860. The first occupant of S334 was James Edward Tarzey, a two-month-old son of Edward Tarzey and his wife Sarah. Baby James was buried on 19th February 1860, having died of '*debility from birth*'. Whilst physically close, chronologically, S437 is some distance from the others. To get to it through time, in the way graves were allocated, took over a year. *Thomas Moss Tarzey* was laid to rest here on 5th August 1861.

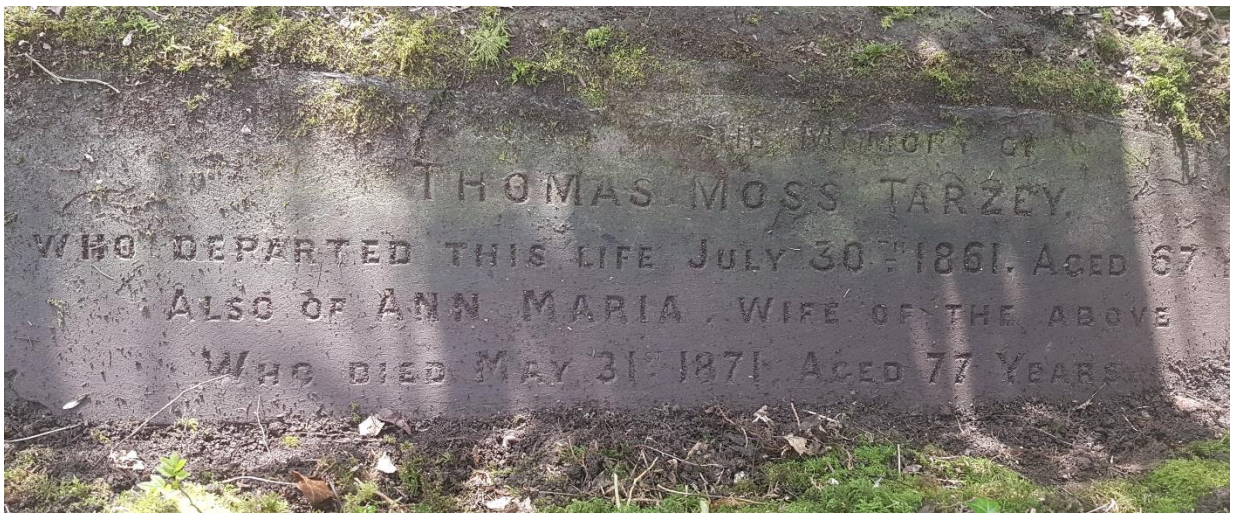
The graves themselves add to the story of the Tarzey family. S331 neatly lists Daniel William and his first wife Sarah on one side, with Eunice and Elizabeth, his second and third wives on the other. They are in chronological order, so no favouritism is implied. It is likely the tombstone was updated or replaced by a caring family after Daniel William's death. Two children are also buried in the grave, Eunice's second child, William Daniel, died in March 1865 aged eleven months and Daniel James Joseph Tarzey, a five-month-old child of Daniel William's brother Edward and his wife Sarah, who also died in March 1865. The joint burial of these two baby cousins indicates the closeness of the two brothers' families in both life and death; the family only re-opened one grave.

If it had not been for the death of his cousin, Daniel James Joseph Tarzey may have joined baby James Edward Tarzey in S334, which would eventually receive another six bodies anyway. The next three were infant children of Edward and Sarah; Ellen, William and Thomas John, born and died around 1861, 1867 and 1869 respectively. The fifth occupant was another son, George Tarzey (1868-1872), who died in an industrial accident aged 14. Sarah and Edward Tarzey eventually joined their five children, in 1901 and 1909. There are inscriptions for George, Sarah and Edward.

The inscription on S437 was updated when Thomas Moss Tarzey was joined by his wife Ann Maria in 1871. It was updated again when his son-in-law Joseph Bailey was interred in 1884, but not after Sarah Ann Bailey joined them in 1903. No one cared enough for the childless 87-year-old widow to do so.

Daniel William's brother James Moss Tarsey is also buried at Arnos Vale. His grave, LL221, is in a different part of the cemetery. Unlike his two Bristol-based brothers, he had lived and died a 'Tarsey', and this is the name etched on his gravestone. Daniel William's younger sister, Elizabeth Catherine, and her husband George Martin are also buried at Arnos Vale.

Grave S331, Daniel William Tarzey and his three wives


THOMAS MOSS TARZEY
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JULY 30TH 1861. AGED 67
ALSO OF ANN MARIA, WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED MAY 31ST 1871 AGED 77 YEARS

Grave S437, Thomas Moss and Ann Maria Tarzey

Epilogue – remembering Tottenham

History is full of *what-ifs*. What if George had not been intercepted by the 6-mile stone on the road from London to Edmonton on 10th January 1835? Perhaps a Tarzey would never have set foot in Bristol. What if Sarah Tarzey (nee Jones) had not caught tuberculosis and died on 27th December 1859? Daniel William Tarzey may have had one long, but childless, marriage; none of his descendants, mentioned in this account, would have come to be.

It is fair to say, that Daniel William's Bristol-based, Tarzey-named, great grandchildren, Jean Elizabeth Florence Berry (nee Tarzey) and John Edward Richard Tarzey, born in 1926 and 1931 respectively, believed they were from a line of Bristolians and that, wherever the name Tarzey came from, its roots lay in the West Country. They did not know about the journey their ancestors had made a century earlier.

This was probably not true of Daniel William's own children. An enigmatic photo from the collection of one of Daniel William's great, great grandchildren (Margaret Simon[15]) shows three men in a workshop. The photo was found amongst others which included one of his daughter-in-law Amelia Florence Tarzey (Edward Hooper's first wife) with her children Mildred and Gilbert (see appendix 2).

The three workmen may well be boatbuilders. Expert opinion[16] was sought regarding this photo and the likely date, from the style of the photo itself, the menswear and the photos of the pictures of women on the wall behind, is that it was taken in the early 20th century (1900-1910). If one or more of these three men are Tarzeys and they are boatbuilders, then it seems likely to have been taken in Portsmouth, where Daniel Joseph Tarzey (born 1869) was by then working.

Close inspection of the three pictures hanging on the wall between the two men on the right shows they are football memorabilia and the name Tottenham is clear on one of them; the team[17] is based today just a few miles south of where Daniel William was born. Perhaps his children still remembered their Edmonton heritage.

Three workmen. Tarzey boatbuilders in Portsmouth circa 1900-1910? Below, detail showing the reference to Tottenham Hotspur FC.

[15] Margaret Simon is Daniel William's great, great granddaughter via his second son Edward Hooper, his granddaughter Mildred Eunice and great granddaughter Barbara Eunice Tarzey

[16] www.jayneshrimpton.co.uk

[17] Tottenham Hotspur FC was founded in 1882, it won the Southern League title in 1900 and the FA Cup in 1901, so was becoming hot property at the turn of the 20th century. For reference, Bristol Rovers was founded in 1883, Bristol City in 1894 and Portsmouth FC in 1898.

Appendix 1: The fate of Daniel William's surviving Bristol-based siblings

Thomas and Ann Maria Tarzey had eleven known children. The stories of Daniel William's older brothers, George (1814-38) and Thomas Daniel (1819-91) and, of course, Daniel William himself, have been told earlier. John Randall, Ann Maria (junior), William Henry and Catherine Anne Moss, born 1821, 1823, 1829 and 1838, respectively, all died young. That leaves Sarah Ann, Elizabeth Catherine, Edward and James Moss, who all travelled with the family to Bristol in 1835. Their lives are summarised here.

Sarah Ann Bailey (nee Tarzey) – 1816-1903

Sarah Ann Tarzey, Daniel William's older sister by nine years, was born at Winchmore Hill on 20th November 1816. She was baptised on 2nd February 1817 at All Saints, Edmonton, less than ten days before her grandmother, Ann Tarzey, was buried in the church's graveyard.

The first evidence of the Tarzey family having arrived in Bristol was when Sarah Ann, aged 19, married 25-year-old Joseph Bailey (1811-1884) on 3rd May 1836. Joseph was born in Hartpury, north of Gloucester. There is no evidence of the couple having any surviving children; none are shown on any of the censuses from 1841 to 1881. Throughout this time the couple are living in and around St. Philip's Marsh. Joseph progressively describes himself as a shipwright/labourer, ship's carpenter, '*barge master, employing 4 men*', '*lighterman, employing 3 men'* (a lighter is a type of barge).

However Sarah Ann and Joseph met, it may not have just provided Thomas and Ann Maria with a son-in-law, but it may have been the contact that led to shipbuilding careers for their youngest three sons, Daniel William, Edward and James Moss, who had made it to Bristol in 1835 with their parents.

Joseph died in 1874, Sarah Ann survived him by 19 years, dying on 3rd August 1903 from '*senile decay*'. During her old age she lived with the family of her niece, Sarah Vear, the daughter of her younger sister Elizabeth Catherine Martin (nee Tarzey) at 48 Grafton Street in St. Philip's Marsh. The death was registered by her great nephew Thomas Vear.

Sarah Ann and Joseph Bailey were both buried in the same grave at Arnos Vale as Sarah Ann's parents, Thomas Moss and Ann Maria Tarzey. Joseph's name was added to the gravestone, presumably paid for by Sarah Ann. However, when Sarah Ann herself died at the age of 87, although the records show she was buried in the same grave, no one bothered, or could afford to have her name added to the grave, including the niece she had been living with and the three siblings that survived her; Elizabeth Catherine, Daniel William and Edward.

Elizabeth Catherine Martin (nee Tarzey) – 1828-1920

Daniel William's younger sister Elizabeth Catherine was the only sibling to outlive him, dying in 1920 at the age of 92. She was born on 27th January 1828 on Silver Street in Edmonton, a road which still exists today, off which is Tanners End Lane, and is another way of referring to the Tarzey family's home before 1835.

Elizabeth Catherine married George Martin (1826-1893) on 12th February 1852 in '*St. Paul, Portland Square*' in Bristol, she was 24, he was 26; they were listed as living on Milk Street at the time. George was a shipwright and probably a work colleague of Daniel William's and in the 1851 census he is listed as a lodger with the Tarzey family at Beaches Cottage. This is presumably how the couple met.

The couple had at least 12 children, the first in 1853 and the last in 1874, when Elizabeth Catherine would have been 46; 10 would survive to adulthood. Various of the children remained living with their parents at Ivy Cottage in St. Philip's Marsh well into adulthood and after George died in 1893.

In 1901, three grandchildren are living with Elizabeth Catherine and even in 1911, when she was 82, three of her adult children are still at home. At least two of the sons would follow their father to become shipwrights. One of the daughters, Sarah Vear (nee Martin), would care for Elizabeth Catherine's older sister Sarah Ann Bailey in old age. Sarah Ann would die at Sarah Vear's house on Grafton Street in St. Philip's Marsh in 1903.

Elizabeth Catherine died on 4th January 1920 in Bristol and is buried with George at Arnos Vale along with a daughter, Kate, who died 13th May 1930, aged 75. The couple have descendants living in Bristol.

Edward Tarzey – 1832-1909

Daniel William's younger brother, Edward, was born at Tanners End on 2nd April 1832. He used the name Tarzey throughout his life and passed it on via his son Edward Colston Tarzey to present-day Tarzeys living in Oxford.

Edward would describe himself as a carpenter and shipwright at various times in his life, so it seems reasonable to assume that, like Daniel William, Edward took an apprenticeship. If this is the case it would probably have started when he was 15 in 1847 and ended in 1854. In 1856, aged 23, Edward took the position of ship's carpenter on a ship called the Fry for a voyage to New York and Quebec, an assignment for which he earnt £23 and 6s (about £2,500 in today's money); 3s for beer were among the deductions from this sum. His conduct and ability were described on discharge as '*very good*'.

On return, in 1857, Edward married Sarah Mitchell (1832-1901), the sister of his brother, James Moss Tarsey's, future wife Hannah (see box). By the 1860s Edward had abandoned shipbuilding and ran a grocery business at 10 Tower Hill in central Bristol. In 1868 Edward had a brush with the law for keeping '*unjust scales*'. He seems to have kept the business going up until 1877 when he filed for bankruptcy.

In later life Edward and Sarah moved to 24 Feeder Road, the same terrace, Duffett's Buildings, as Daniel William and his family. Both died there, Sarah in 1901, and Edward in 1909 from nephritis, a kidney disorder.

The Mitchell sisters

Daniel William's younger brothers, Edward Tarzey and James Moss Tarsey, would both marry sisters from the Mitchell family. Sarah (1832-1901) and Hannah (1836 to 1903) were the eldest two daughters of George and Hannah Mitchell. The family lived in the Castle Precincts ward where George was a baker.

Edward and Sarah had at least eight children, however, five of them would die young. Their first, James Edward, died aged two months in 1860, causing them to purchase a grave at Arnos Vale. Ellen (1861), William (1867) and Thomas (1869) would follow. A fifth, Daniel James Joseph aged 5 months, would be buried at the same time as an 11-month-old cousin in his uncle's (Daniel William's) family grave in 1864.

Three children made it beyond childhood.

George Thomas James Tarzey was born in 1858 and would die, aged 14, from tetanus following a workplace accident in July 1872. There was an inquest reported in the Western Daily Press on 24th July. He had recently started working for the printing firm E.S. & A. Robinson on Redcliffe Street. His toe was crushed by the iron frame of a printing machine. After visiting hospital he was initially discharged, but then readmitted to the Bristol Royal Infirmary with lockjaw, where he died on 19th July. The inquest verdict was '*accidental death*' and that the accident could not have happened without '*extreme carelessness or thoughtlessness*', on behalf of George. George was buried in the family grave at Arnos Vale and there is an inscription for him above his mother, who died 29 years later.

Edward Colston Tarzey was born on Tower Hill, Bristol, on 13th November 1862 (Colston's day). He married Mary Lavinia Payne in 1885 and they would have a son and five daughters, who would all reach adulthood. Edward became an MP and was a Sunday school teacher at St. Silas church for over 30 years, according to his obituary which appeared in the Western Daily Press. His coffin was borne by members of the Shipwright's Association; he had followed in the footsteps of his father and uncles to build boats. Edward Colston Tarzey died in 1940 aged 77.

Sarah Ann was born in 1866. In 1888, aged 21 she married John Hodge; they would have at least six children.

James Moss Tarsey – 1834-1890

James Moss Tarsey was born 19th May 1834 at Tanners End, Edmonton. When his eldest brother, George, was convicted and transported in February 1835, James was less than a year old.

Unlike his father and two Bristol-based brothers, Daniel William and Edward, James used the spelling *Tarsey* throughout his life (as did Thomas Daniel, the brother who remained in London). In 1860 James married Hannah Mitchell (1836-1903), the sister of Sarah Mitchell, his brother Edward's wife (see box on page 37).

Some records list James as a boatbuilder, suggesting he initially pursued the same career as Daniel William and Edward. His apprenticeship would have started in 1849 and ended in 1856. However, by 1870, aged about 37, James Moss Tarsey is running the Coopers' Arms, at 6 Victoria Road in St. Philip's Marsh, a building that still exists, just over the road from the site of Daniel William's boatyard.

According to the 1871 census, his mother Ann Maria Tarzey was living with James and Hannah when she died in May 1871 (although she was visiting London when she actually died). James also died at the Coopers' Arms of '*alcoholic epilepsy/delirium tremens'* on 7th September 1890. On his death certificate James is listed as a beer retailer and barge owner. Probate of £390 (about £50,000 in today's money) went to Hannah. Hannah continued running the pub until 1897, she died in 1903.

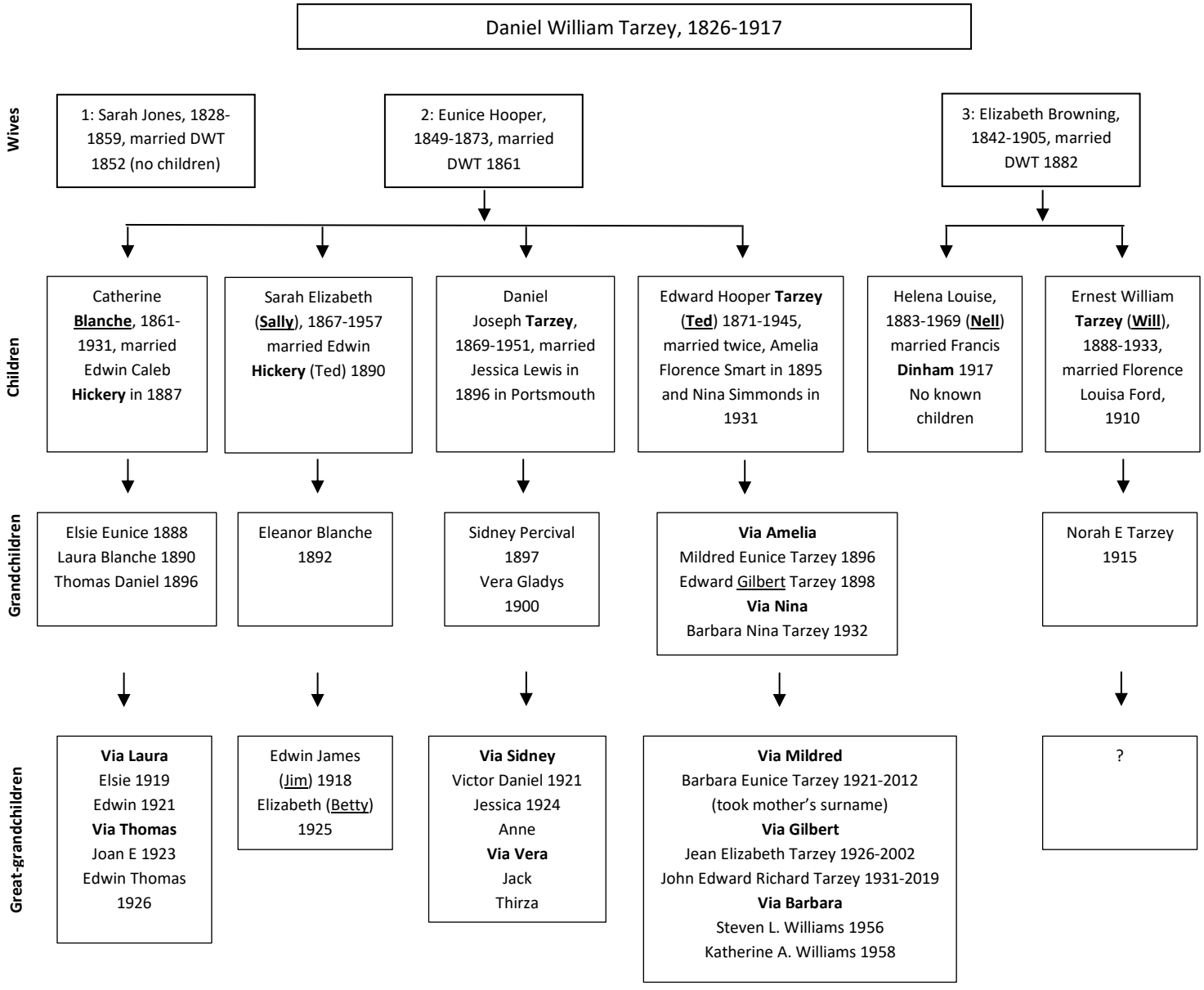
James and Hannah had at least nine children, seven of whom survived to adulthood: Catherine (1861-1945, married name Roche), John Randall (1863-1935), Sarah Ann (1865-1943, married name Sansom), Thomas Joseph (1868-1890), Ellen Elizabeth (1870-1927, married name Stanley), Ann Marie (1872-1944, married name Eyers), William Daniel (1878-1951). Two others died young: George James (1871–1872) and James George (1875–1881). The upstairs of the Coopers' Arms must have been very crowded in the early 1880s.

John Randall Tarsey took up the family trade and is listed as a '*shipwright's apprentice*' on the 1881 census; he may have been working with his uncle, Daniel William, alongside his cousins Edward Hooper and Daniel Joseph. John Randall married Alice Mary Humphry in 1887. The couple were living in Bristol as late as 1901. John Randall had run a grocery store on Victoria Road, St. Philip's Marsh, in the early 1890s, a trade his uncle Edward had been in for many years. However, by 1911, aged 48, John Randall has reverted to his old trade and is working as a shipwright at the government dockyard in Portsmouth, perhaps he followed Daniel Joseph there. John Randall died in Portsmouth in 1935.

William Daniel Tarsey would pursue a career on the railways. In 1901, aged 22, he is the only child still listed as living with his mother Hannah and describes himself as a '*rail engine fireman*'. On the 1911 census he is working as an '*engine driver*', still single, lodging in south Wales, which may have been just where he happened to be on the night of 2nd April when the census was taken.

Appendix 2: The three wives of Daniel William Tarzey and their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

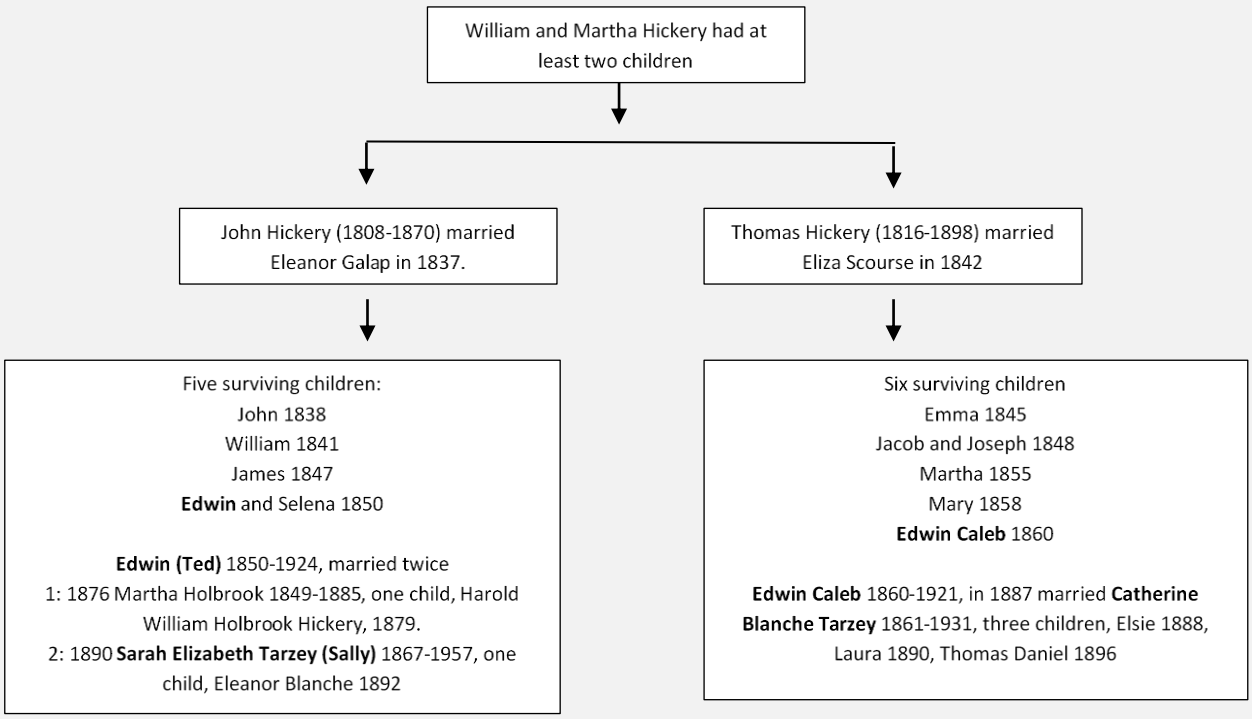
Compared to his brother Edward, who lost six children before adulthood, Daniel William was lucky to only lose one, his second child with Eunice, William Daniel, who died in March 1865 aged eleven months. Daniel William was survived by six children, eleven grandchildren (all but one born before he died) and fourteen known great-grandchildren (all born after he died).



The lives of Daniel William's two daughters, Catherine Blanche and Sarah Elizabeth, can be confusing as they married cousins from the same family, both called Edwin Hickery (see box).

The Hickery family

The children of the two families that grew out the marriage of Tarzey daughters to Hickery cousins were first cousins via their mothers and second cousins via their fathers. Edwin Hickery was probably introduced to his cousin's sister-in-law following the death of his first wife. The two families remained close, living on parallel streets in St. Philip's Marsh in the 1890s: Edwin and Sarah Elizabeth at 26 Stanhope Street and Edwin Caleb and Catherine Blanche at 1 Victoria Road. On 3rd December 1896, a joint baptism was held for cousins Eleanor Blanche and Thomas Daniel.


William and Martha Hickery had at least two children
John Hickery (1808-1870) married Eleanor Galap in 1837.
Thomas Hickery (1816-1898) married Eliza Scourse in 1842
Five surviving children:
John 1838
William 1841
James 1847
Edwin and Selena 1850
Edwin (Ted) 1850-1924, married twice
1: 1876 Martha Holbrook 1849-1885, one child, Harold William Holbrook Hickery, 1879.
2: 1890 **Sarah Elizabeth Tarzey (Sally)** 1867-1957, one child, Eleanor Blanche 1892
Six surviving children
Emma 1845
Jacob and Joseph 1848
Martha 1855
Mary 1858
Edwin Caleb 1860
Edwin Caleb 1860-1921, in 1887 married **Catherine Blanche Tarzey** 1861-1931, three children, Elsie 1888, Laura 1890, Thomas Daniel 1896

Catherine Blanche Hickery (nee Tarzey) – 1861-1931

Catherine Blanche Tarzey was born on 3rd November 1861, probably at her parents' (Daniel William and Eunice's) then home, the Foresters' Arms on Hotwell Road. Her birth date is 187 days (six months) after the wedding of her parents, so her conception probably led to their marriage. She was known as Blanche for much of her life and official documents often use her second name rather than her first. She died in 1931 aged 70.

Catherine Blanche married Edwin Caleb Hickery on 24th December 1887. They had three children all born in St. Philip's Marsh: Elsie Eunice 1888-1951, Laura Blanche 1890-1941 and Thomas Daniel born 1896, death date not known. Elsie died with the name Hickery and seems to have remained unmarried with no children. Laura married in 1915, taking the name Paske and had two children Elsie 1919, Edwin 1921.

Thomas Daniel worked for the Post Office as a telecommunication engineer. He married Irene Clarissa Voisey in 1932, she had been born in January 1898 and raised by adoptive parents. The couple had three children, Joan E. 1923, Edwin Thomas 1926, and William who died in 1935 aged 3. The family seems to have moved to New Zealand at some point. Irene died there in 1977 and Edwin Thomas appears on New Zealand electoral registers in 1981.

Sarah Elizabeth Hickery (nee Tarzey) – 1867-1957

Sarah Elizabeth was born on 3rd April 1867 at her parents' then home on Treefield Road, Baptist Mills. She was known as Sally. Sally remained close to her brother Edward Hooper throughout her life, according to the personal recollections of Edward Hooper's grandson John Edward Richard Tarzey.

Sally married Edwin Hickery (Ted) 1852-1924, a quarry owner, on 14th August 1890. He was a widower, previously married in 1876 to Martha Holbrook with whom he had a son, Harold William Holbrook Hickery. Martha died in 1885. Ted was a first cousin of Catherine Blanche's husband Edwin Caleb, which is presumably how Sally got to know him. Sally died on 7th February 1957 aged 89. At the time she was living in Saltford.

Ted and Sally had one daughter, Eleanor Blanche Tarzey, born 7th April 1892. Eleanor married Wilfrid Charters in April 1917 and the couple would go on to have two children, Edwin James (Jim), October 1918 to 9th March 1941 (he died in service in a plane crash during the war) and Elizabeth (Betty), born April 1925, death date not known.

Edward Hooper Tarzey, Frank Dinham, Sally Hickery (Sarah Elizabeth Tarzey) and Nell Dinham (Helena Louise Tarzey) circa late 1920s. Before Edward Hooper remarried to Nina in 1931 and after the death of Edwin (Ted) Hickery in 1924. Courtesy of Simon Berry (Jean Berry's second son).

Daniel Joseph Tarzey – 1869-1951 – and the Portsmouth Tarzeys and shipbuilders

The eldest of Daniel William's three surviving sons, Daniel Joseph Tarzey, was born on 4th June 1869 at 12 Duffett's buildings. Daniel Joseph married a local Portsmouth girl, Jessica Lewis (1876-1918), on 12th September 1896. They would have two children, Sidney Percival (1897-1971) and Vera Gladys (1900-1981).

Daniel Joseph was indentured to his father's boatbuilding business in December 1884, aged 15. At some point between early 1891, when the census record shows him still living at 12 Duffett's Buildings, and 1896, when he married, Daniel Joseph moved to Portsmouth.

It also seems likely that in 1903, aged 15, Daniel Joseph's younger half-brother Ernest William moved to Portsmouth to take up an apprenticeship. The 1911 census shows Ernest, occupation shipwright, and his new wife, Florence, living with Daniel Joseph and his family.

The 1911 census record does not include Daniel Joseph himself, who may have been working in Gibraltar; in May 1912, his own son Sidney Percival would sign up as an apprentice to work at "*His Majesty's Dockyard at Gibraltar*", the document is signed by Sidney's father, '*Daniel Joseph Tarzey of Gibraltar*'. Records as late as 1922 show Daniel Joseph as a passenger travelling to Gibraltar.

Daniel Joseph's nephew, John Randall Tarsey, son of James Moss Tarsey, was also working as a shipwright at the government dockyard in Portsmouth by 1911 and may have worked with his uncle at some point; he would die in Portsmouth in 1935. So, by 1912 at least four Tarzeys/Tarseys were based out of Portsmouth, working as shipwrights, probably all in government dockyards: Daniel Joseph, his son Sidney Percival, his half-brother Ernest William and his nephew John Randall.

Daniel Joseph died in Portsmouth aged 82 on 3rd July 1951. Probate was valued at £1,870.18.11 (about £60,000 in today's money). Jessica had died in 1918, aged just 46. Daniel William would have five surviving great grandchildren via Daniel Joseph. However, there are no present-day Tarzeys from the Portsmouth branch of the family

Sidney Percival Tarzey (Sid) married Gladys Mary Davies (Glad) in July 1919. According to notes sent to Jean Berry by Victor Daniel Tarzey, there were three children: Victor Daniel 1921-1996, Jessica born April 1924, and Ann (no other records found). Vera married John Atherton (Johnny) in 1920, and would have two children, Jack and Thirza.

Sidney Percival Tarzey was awarded a British War Medal for service at Portsmouth Dockyard and later an EIIR Imperial Service Medal for service at Portsmouth Naval Dockyards. His wife, Gladys Mary Tarzey, was awarded an OBE in 1920, under her maiden name Davies, for service in Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps.

Edward Hooper Tarzey (Ted) – 1871-1945

Edward Hooper Tarzey was born on 25th December 1871. His second name is the maiden name of his mother Eunice; he was just 14 months old when she committed suicide in 1873. Edward Hooper and his three older siblings were brought up by their father on his own for nine years, with the likely support of nearby aunts and uncles in St. Philip's Marsh. In April 1882, Daniel William married his third wife, Elizabeth Browning, who moved in with the family at 12 Duffett's buildings. Elizabeth would soon disappear to Devon to give birth to Edward Hooper's half-sister Helena Louise, who he was close to throughout his life.

Edward Hooper probably followed his older brother Daniel Joseph into their father's boatbuilding business, at least for a time. Like his brother, he may have started an apprenticeship aged 15 in late 1886 or early 1887, although no indenture document has survived. Edward Hooper's granddaughter, Jean Berry, born in 1926, knew her grandfather for 19 years, she states in her memoire:

"On Sunday mornings I went to visit Grandpa Tarzey [Edward Hooper Tarzey] with Dad [Edward Gilbert Tarzey]. Grandpa didn't have a wife; I felt very sorry for him. She had died age 44, of heart disease, when Dad was 17, during the first world war. Grandpa had been a boatbuilder when he was a young man, with his father [Daniel William Tarzey] and brother [Daniel Joseph Tarzey] but changed to become a cooper at the brewery when the boat business ended."

If Edward Hooper did start a seven-year apprenticeship, he seems not to have finished it. On the 1891 census, when still living with his father and stepmother, he describes himself as a cooper, as he does on his 1895 marriage certificate. In later life Edward Hooper worked at the brewery of Greyfriars, the cooperage for Bristol United Breweries.

Edward Hooper Tarzey married Amelia Florence Smart in 1895. They had two children, Mildred Eunice (1896-1980), Eunice being the name of the mother Edward Hooper hardly knew, and Edward Gilbert (1898-1962), who was known as Gilbert. Amelia died on 24th December 1915 from heart disease, aged 44, and is buried in Brislington cemetery. Edward Hooper would eventually remarry to Nina Simmonds (1895-1950), a tram-conductress, in October 1931; she was 24 years his junior. The couple would have one daughter, Barbara in July 1932, when Edward Hooper was 61.

Amelia Florence Tarzey with her children, Mildred and Gilbert, outside 101 Sandy Park Road, circa 1912. From the collection of Margaret Simon.

Edward Hooper and his family moved from one house to another, often taking rooms with other family members. When he married Amelia in December 1895, both state they are living on Cheese Lane, near Old Market in central Bristol. From at least December 1896 until August 1898, they are living on Stanhope Street in St. Philip's Marsh, where both Mildred and Gilbert were born. In 1901, Edward Hooper, Amelia, Mildred (aged 4) and Gilbert (aged 2) are living at 6 Fitzroy Street with Amelia's sister Rose Tucker (nee Smart, 1866-1948) and her two daughters. By 1911 the family are at 101 Sandy Park Road with Edward Hooper's father Daniel William and half-sister Helena. Following Amelia's death, from at least 1916 until May 1918, correspondence relating to Gilbert's war service is from 535 Kensington Hill (now the Bath Road). By September 1918, Edward Hooper has moved to 31 Winchester Road, the home of Helena and her new husband, Francis Dinham. By 1924, when Gilbert married Ruby Walton, Edward Hooper is living at 14 Kings Road. In later life, his sister Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) provided a home for her brother at 66 Jubilee Road, which is where he died.

Edward Hooper and Nina Tarzey's grave at Arnos Vale

Edward Hooper's grandson John Edward Richard Tarzey (1931-2019), once told the author that Gilbert said of his father, "*you could not find a kinder, gentler man*", although he also recalled that Nina was left with no pension and took in lodgers to make ends meet. When Edward Hooper Tarzey died on 30th December 1945 aged 75, he was still working as a cooper. Nina died in 1950. They are buried together at Arnos Vale.

All known remaining Bristol-based Tarzeys are descendants of Edward's son Gilbert and his son John Edward Richard Tarzey, including a new generation born in the early 21st century – Daniel William's great, great, great grandchildren.

Helena Louise Dinham (Nell, nee Tarzey) – 1882-1969

Helena Louise Tarzey was born on 9th November 1882 in Bideford Devon, less than 200 days after her parents married, 80 days short of the average time for a human pregnancy. Bideford was her mother Elizabeth's hometown, who had perhaps returned to her family for a few months to avoid Bristol-based gossip about when the child was conceived. Helena was known as Nell for much of her life. For some reason Helena was not baptised until 1897 at the Parish church of St. Silas in St. Philip's Marsh.

Helena seems to have lived with her father Daniel William from her birth until his death in February 1917. First at 12 Duffett's buildings, then at 101 Sandy Park Road with her half-brother Edward Hooper and his family. Helena registered Daniel William's death and states she was present at his death at 17 St. Luke's Road, the home of her older half-sister Catherine Blanche Hickery. It is possible that both Daniel William and Helena were living there by 1917, but it could just have been a care arrangement for his final days.

On 23rd April 1917, two months after Daniel William died, Helena, aged 35, married 45-year-old widower Francis (Frank) Dinham (1872-1960), a butcher, in Bristol. Her half-brother Edward Hooper and half-sister Catherine Blanche Hickery were witnesses. She moved into his long-term home at 31 Winchester Road, where Edward Hooper and his daughter Mildred would lodge for a while around 1918.

The couple had no children, although Francis had two sons and a daughter from his first marriage to Florence Annie Howse (1873-1916): Reginald Thomas (1900-1971), Dorothy Gwendoline (1901-1988) and Harold Francis (1908-1930).

Francis Dinham died at 100 York Road in May 1960. Probate was granted to Helena and Reginald valued at £976 (about £23,000 in today's money). Helena died on 19th July 1969; she was living at 28 Cotham Park, in Cotham, Bristol. The death was registered by her stepdaughter, Dorothy Gwendoline Pearce. Probate was valued at £276 (about £4,500 in today's money), it is not recorded who applied, but presumably her two surviving stepchildren were the beneficiaries.

There is an error on Helena's death certificate. Her date of birth is given as 1883, a year later than is given on her birth certificate. This could be an error by Dorothy, or the result of Helena having lied about her exact age in later years to gloss over her pre-marital conception. However, on other available documents, including the 1891, 1901 and 1911 censuses, at her baptism in 1897 and marriage in 1917 the correct age is given.

Ernest William Daniel Tarzey (Will) – 1888-1933

Ernest William Daniel, who was known as William or Will, was the third of Daniel William's sons to reach adulthood and the second child with his third wife Elizabeth. Ernest William was born on 28th January 1888 at 12 Duffett's Buildings, when Daniel William was 62 and Elizabeth was 42. The 1911 census and Ernest William's death certificate describe him as a shipwright.

Sometime after 1901, Ernest William moved to Portsmouth, where he would meet and marry Florence Louisa Ford in 1910; she was originally from near Ansford near Castle Cary in Somerset. The 1911 census shows the couple living with Daniel Joseph's family (his eldest half-brother). Perhaps Ernest William had moved in 1903, when he would have been 15, to take up a boatbuilding

apprenticeship with Daniel Joseph, the age other family members started in the trade. If so, the apprenticeship likely lasted seven years, finishing in 1910.

Ernest William and Florence had one child, Norah E Tarzey, in 1915. By the time Ernest William died from influenza, on his birthday, 28th January 1933, Florence and he had moved back to Bristol and were living at 81 Repton Road in Brislington. Florence died the next day, also from 'flu. Probate was granted to his half-brother Edward Hooper Tarzey and sister Helena Louise Dinham, who had both been involved in sorting out Daniel William's estate when he died in 1917. Probate for Ernest William was valued at £234.12.2 (worth about £17,000 today) and for £255.15.4 for Florence (worth about £18,000 today). What is not clear is if, in the 24 hours between their deaths, Florence had inherited her husband's money. If she had, their joint wealth was no more than £255.15.4.

Acknowledgments

The research that led to this account was started by my Aunt, Jean Berry in the 1980s. Through her contact with Vic Tarzey in Portsmouth, copies of the indenture documents for three generations of Tarzey shipbuilders were obtained.

Thanks to my…

First-cousin Julia Miners, Jean Berry's daughter, for her encouragement and her insights into the fate of Daniel William's older brother George Tarzey, a story yet to be told in detail.

Second-cousin, Margaret Simon, for her information on the descendants of Daniel William's granddaughter Mildred Tarzey.

Fourth cousins, Dan Tarzey and Gay Takakoshi, for information provided on the descendants of Daniel William's younger brother Edward Tarzey.

Fourth cousin, Rita Crowe, for information provided on the descendants of the Martin family.

Sister, Jo Redman, historian and friend, Herb Goldschmidt, and proof-reader, Helen Hopper, for their reviews of this document.

My brothers, Andy Tarzey and Jim Tarzey, and other family members, who have encouraged this work and who will, hopefully, find it interesting, now that this first edition is complete.

Robert Tarzey, Windsor, July 2020